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BIRTH.

On the 27th August, at "Blue Lungalow," the wife of R. T. WRIGHT, of a son.

DEATHS.

On Friday, the 28th July, at Chemulpo, after a lingering illness, Mr. T. HOLLINGSWORTH, of the Imperia Korean Customs.

On the 27th August, at 28, Morrison Hill Road, Hongkong, EDW. N. HEBBERT (Wee Bertie), dearly-beloved son of Captain E. H. and Ele-tina Summers, aged 5 years and 1 month. (English papers please copy.)

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French mail of the 28th July arrived per M. M. steamer *Indus*, on the 27th August (30 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The members of the French medical staff sent to Kwangchowwan when plague was prevalent there have returned to Haiphong, the disease having disappeared and the sanitary condition of Kwangchowwan being, according to the *Courrier d'Haiphong*, perfectly satisfactory.

The trial of Robert Miller in the four Yokohama Chiho Saibansho before Judges, for the murder of Nelson Ward and two Japanese women at Yokohama on the 17th July, has ended in a verdict of guilty. Sentence of death was passed on the prisoner. Notice of appeal was given.

Important political changes appear to be taking place in the North. It is reported that Li Hung-chang has been reinstated as Viceroy of Chihli and that the rivalry for power between Prince Ching, commanding the Peking Field Force, and Jung Lu, commanding the Wawei Army, has reached such a head that both sides have begun to secretly prepare for actual conflict.

The Legation that the Siamese Government has resolved to establish in Japan, we read in a contemporary, will be opened shortly. Luang-Sanprakitch Precha (Nia Chew), barrister-at-law, of the Middle Temple, London, has received the appointment of Secretary of Legation. Phya Rithirong will be the Minister to Japan. These two gentlemen expect to leave Siam early in September to take up their appointments.

The *Singapore Free Press* says:—It is being surmised, with what foundation does not appear, that H. E. the Governor is to get an extension of one year in office. What lends some degree of probability to this is the prospect of Sir Alexander Swettenham's transfer to Ceylon, which, if Sir Charles Mitchell went also, might leave the Colony provided with both a Governor and a Colonial Secretary strange to the Colony and unfamiliar with its affairs.

The Commissionship of the "Commercial" port of Woosung left vacant by the banishment of the cashiered Taotai, Shen Tun-ho, was last week filled by another Taotai who, curiously, also possesses the surname of Shen. This official is a native of Foochow, over fifty years of age, and the eldest son of the late Shen Pao-chou, Viceroy of the Liangkang, who made his name notorious by his conservatism in buying the first Woosung Railway and then pulling up the rails and transporting them and the plant to Formosa in the latter part of the seventies. —*N. C. Daily News*.

The *Straits Times* of the 22nd August says:—Mr. Lew Yuk Lin, who has been acting Consul-General for China in Singapore since February, 1898, and has been regarded by his countrymen here as an extremely able official, leaves for China by the *Arratoon Apar*, due here from Calcutta to-morrow. Mr. Lew Yuk Lin's mother died some two months ago. After attending to her burial in China and seeing his family comfortably settled down, Mr. Lew Yuk Lin will proceed to London to join the Chinese Legation. The departing acting Consul-General was educated as a Government student and has held various consular and diplomatic posts in America. He arrived in Singapore in the spring of 1895, as Secretary of the Consulate, was acting Consul-General in 1897, and in the same year was Secretary to the Chinese Ambassador at Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee, being present at three audiences given by Her Majesty. He travelled with the Embassy on the Continent and in America, and was decorated by the Czar of Russia with the Stanislaus Order of the Third Class.

From the *Avenir du Tonkin* we learn that on the 13th July there was a little anti-foreign disturbance at Yunnan. A crowd attacked a temple in which two Frenchmen resided, pillaged it, and pursued the Frenchmen but did not catch them. Passing by the Catholic mission without touching it the crowd attacked another house occupied by Messrs. Guillemoto and Co., but before they had succeeded in breaking in soldiers came upon the scene and dispersed them.

News has been received of an attempt made by Russian Cossacks at Hankow to interfere with the fencing round Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co.'s property, which is included in the area of the so called Russian concession. An armed party was landed from H.M.S. *Woodlark* and the Cossacks withdrew. The *Esch* was despatched from Shanghai to Hankow on receipt of the news. It is anticipated that the Russian Government will declare that the Russian Consul exceeded his instructions.

The Straits Legislative Council, with two dissentient votes, has passed a motion authorising the Straits Government to spend nearly a million of dollars in constructing a fifteen-mile railway from Singapore Town to the navigable strait that separates the island of Singapore from Johore. For the present the railway will have to rely chiefly on the passenger traffic for its revenue, but it is to be built as a solid line, suitable for carrying heavy goods traffic, and of the same gauge as the lines that now run through the Malay Peninsula. Ultimately it will no doubt connect with Burmah and India.

Referring to the demonetisation of the Japanese yen in the Straits the Chairman of the Singapore Chamber of Commerce, the Hon. C. Stringer, at the half-yearly meeting of that body said:—The Government, on 30th December, 1898, proclaimed demonetisation from and after 15th April, 1899. Your Committee, maintaining the principle that "community through Government should bear the cost of any change in currency decided upon," pointed out to the Government the loss that would fall on the poorer and more ignorant section of the community through the abrupt refusal after 15th April to receive or give any consideration for the coin, and suggested the adoption by Government of any measures which might alleviate the situation. The Government, however, disclaimed all responsibility, and their seizure and forfeiture of such imports of yen as were discovered aggravated the hardships foreseen by your Committee—the permission soon after granted to import under licenses from the Colonial Secretary was probably of little effect. On 25th May—40 days after demonetisation came into force—the Committee requested Government to consider the advisability, now that the coin is no longer legal tender, of repealing the prohibition to import and permitting the coin to be dealt in as a commodity. The suggestion has, however, not been adopted and the Committee have not been able to follow the reasoning of Government in this matter. A considerable quantity of the coin was known to have accumulated in neighbouring territories, and the prohibition to import has probably prevented traders from visiting Singapore for the purchase of goods and has driven the trade elsewhere.

THE NEW TERRITORY BLUE BOOK.

(Daily Press, 26th August.)

Our columns are chiefly to-day occupied with a collection of despatches bearing on the disturbances that occurred in connection with the taking over of the New Territory. The effect of the despatches is more calculated to strengthen than to modify the unfavourable impression entertained by the public with regard to the extraordinary muddling that took place in the earlier stages. When the crisis arrived and it became necessary to put down the disorder by the use of an armed force all the officials concerned rose to their duty and acquitted themselves creditably. From that point onwards there is little room for criticism. But of the delay in taking over the New Territory, of the absurdity of attempting to erect Government buildings before the territory was occupied, and especially of the Governor's ill-advised visit to the Viceroy of Canton it would be impossible to speak in terms of too severe condemnation. The territory ought to have been occupied at as early a date as possible after the signing of the Convention, in order not to afford time for the sowing of the seeds of discontent and the organisation of resistance. As to the erection of marts, the occupation had ultimately to take place before these structures were ready, and it might have been foreseen that to send small bodies of men to put up buildings, before the Government was represented in force, would be calculated to needlessly exasperate the people and invite opposition. If, however, some excuse may be advanced for commencing the work on the ground that opposition was not anticipated, operations should certainly have been discontinued at the first murmuring of trouble until such time as the Government was in a position to prevent any disturbance of the peace.

The most extraordinary blunder, however, was the Governor's visit to the Viceroy. It appears that Mr. LOCKHART suggested that the Governor should send him (Mr. LOCKHART), which would have been a less objectionable proceeding as it would not have so directly compromised the dignity of Her Majesty's representative. The Governor, however, attracted possibly by the glamour of an official reception by an Oriental satrap, came to the conclusion that if any one had to go he would go himself. He went, and we should think he must have wished ever since that he had not. Nothing but harm came of the visit, and as to what transpired at the interview, with reference to one of the most important points discussed, that of the removal of the Customs, the Viceroy and Governor give each other what approximates very closely to the lie direct. It seems evident that there must have been some unfortunate mistake on the point, possibly due to the employment of a euphemistic style of conversation. However that may be, we think the truculent old Viceroy is entitled to be considered honest in his statement of what he understood to be the purport of the conversation, for on this point he has been consistent throughout. It will be remembered that on the publication of the Convention he sent certain suggested regulations to the Tsungli Yamen which were submitted by that body to Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD, who returned them with a very severe and proper animadversion upon the Viceroy. Then Sir HENRY BLAKE in his report of his conversation with the Viceroy, while he says he told the Viceroy plainly that the Customs must be removed, does not say that the Viceroy in any way accepted that position.

The Viceroy himself at the earliest moment vigorously repudiates it in writing. The misunderstanding, wherever the fault may lie, constitutes no excuse for the Viceroy's opposition to the occupation, or of his failure to preserve order in the territory until it was handed over, but it shows that the interview was not conducted with the skill and clearness that might have been expected and that it only served to encourage that high official in his evil courses. In view of the clear proof of the Viceroy's connivance with the forcible opposition to the occupation we think his dismissal should be peremptorily demanded. Sir HENRY BLAKE's mistake in going to Canton to visit the Viceroy, if it does not call for an equally severe penalty, is certainly deserving of censure.

MR. BYRON BRENNAN ON LEKIN AND INLAND NAVIGATION.

(Daily Press, 29th August.)

Mr. BYRON BRENNAN has a very clear perception of the tortuous methods of the Chinese Government in respect of the burdens laid on foreign goods, and in his report on the trade of Shanghai for last year he again touches on the subject in his usual incisive style. We can only hope that during his present furlough in England he may be able to make clear to the Foreign Office the nature of the evil and the means by which it can be remedied. In his report he says:—"A strict and impartial collection of lekin dues is not to be expected until the service is under the control of the Foreign Customs; but of this desirable change there is at present no indication. When the lekin revenue of certain provinces was given as security for one of China's foreign loans, some Chinese officials shrewdly remarked that henceforth foreigners would cease to denounce the lekin tax as an illegal exaction. Foreigners on their side said that as lekin could not be abolished the next best thing was to put the collection under foreign control. As usual the provincial officials have got the better of us. They pay into the foreign bank the amount necessary to meet the interest on the foreign loan, which satisfies the bondholder, and they retain the collection in their own hands. It requires no great experience of Chinese methods to foretell that, as a result, the amount paid to the foreign banks will be an additional burden put on the back of the long-enduring lekin victim."

Mr. BRENNAN's remarks on the inland waters navigation are equally to the point:—"The opening of inland waters to steam navigation has not been taken advantage of to any large extent, either at Shanghai or elsewhere. A few launches run with passengers to places hitherto closed to them, but as carriers of merchandise they do nothing. The uncertainty as to the treatment merchandise will receive at the hands of the lekin stations so thickly planted in this region deters people from investing the money necessary to start lines of properly constructed steamers. The tariff of dues and duties, which it was promised would be exhibited before the end of the last Chinese year, has not yet appeared, and no merchant can tell by how much the cost of his goods will have been increased by the time the journey is completed. A tariff, however, would not tell him much, for at lekin stations the printed tariff has nothing to do with the amount levied. Were we to take the Chinese Government at its word and insist on the promised

"tariff being published, the only result would be that steamer-borne goods would have to pay the full amount at every station, whereas junks would continue now to act in collusion with the lekin officials and get off with a much smaller payment." The truth of this is exemplified even in the trade between Canton and Hongkong, the Native Customs at Canton underbidding the Foreign Customs in order to secure the trade for junks and the revenue thereon for the coffers of the local officials.

The only remedy is the abolition of the dual Customs system and the placing of the whole service, including the collection of lekin, in the hands of the Foreign Customs. This would result in a large additional revenue, allowing of a just allocation for provincial services and the remission to Peking of a much handsomer sum than now finds its way thither. The necessity for financial reform is gradually being borne in upon the Peking Government under the pressure of the demands made on the present meagre revenue for the service of the foreign loans, and the treaty Powers in general and Great Britain in particular would do well to make use of the situation to try to drive the wedge home. The task will not be accomplished without difficulty, for the vested interests to be considered are large and the opposition to reform will continue formidable for some time to come, but it is only by reform that China can be financially set on her feet again and that foreign trade can obtain the large expansion of which it is capable.

THE CHINO-JAPANESE ALLIANCE.

(Daily Press, 1st September.)

The reported project of an alliance between China and Japan does not appear likely to eventuate at present. It is not, however, to be assumed that the report was altogether without foundation. On the contrary, it would probably be more reasonable to suppose that the recent rumours were allowed to pass into circulation with official connivance for the purpose of testing public opinion on the subject, familiarising people with the idea, and so preparing the way for future action when circumstances may be favourable. The *Japan Mail*, which at first proclaimed the report a canard pure and simple, now admits that there was something in it. "The grain of truth," says our contemporary, "in the recently circulated rumour about a China-Japan alliance appears to be that the Commissioners entertained ideas considerably larger than the legitimate limits of their mission." It is sometimes convenient to make the official limits of a mission somewhat smaller than the verbal instructions to the commissioners would warrant, in order to admit of a little elasticity and the possibility of drawing back without any open confession of failure. The Chinese Commissioners may therefore have "talked large" with a purpose and under instructions. There seems some reason to believe that China in her extremity might not be unwilling to accept guidance and assistance from Japan, and Japan on her part is understood to cherish a dream of bringing into line the Asiatic nations that still remain independent and herself playing the part of leader in the future Asiatic concert. As yet this is a dream only, and is likely to remain so for a long time to come, but an alliance between China and Japan would be a long step towards bringing about its realisation. It may therefore not be disagreeable to Japan to have the possibility of such an alliance publicly discussed.

The Shanghai papers no doubt made a mistake in assuming that the alliance if effected would be of an anti-European character. On this point we find ourselves in full agreement with the *Japan Mail*. There is, as our contemporary says, nothing in Japan's modern history to justify a suspicion that she would enter into any union having for its purpose a conservative and restrictive policy. "If she agreed to lend her assistance to her neighbour it would be solely with the object, first, of leading the Chinese into the path of progress, and, secondly, of developing their strength of self-defence, which can not be accomplished in any way except by inducing them to adopt Western systems. Many students of the time—we ourselves among the number—believe that the practical guidance of Japan is the only guidance China is at all likely to follow, and since Japan has fully learned the lesson, and has demonstrated her knowledge of it, that 'protection by mimicry' is the only safe policy for an Oriental race, no doubt can be entertained for a moment that any influence acquired by her in China would be exercised in the cause of civilized progress." If this view be correct as we believe it to be, an alliance between China and Japan should be viewed with approval rather than suspicion by Great Britain and by all other Powers who do not entertain designs of territorial aggrandisement at China's expense.

THE IMPENDING WAR IN THE TRANSVAAL.

(Daily Press, 31st August.)

The Transvaal cloud has been thickening for some time, and it seems now on the eve of bursting. Up to the commencement of the present month there seemed a fair prospect of some settlement being arrived at. Under firm but moderate and judicious pressure it was believed President KRUGER would yield, and would induce the Volksraad to yield, to the just demands of the British Government. Negotiations were in progress and "OOM PAUL" was proffering reforms of a kind calculated to have an appearance of concession, though they did not go very far, and was reported to have informed Sir ALFRED MILNER that he was willing to accept any friendly suggestion likely to lead to a settlement. The suggestion, of course, would have had to be one that commended itself to the old gentleman's prejudices; but that was a detail; he was open to persuasion, or so he wished the British High Commissioner to believe. Meantime Mr. CHAMBERLAIN, waiting with almost exhaustless patience, had intimated his willingness to confer upon other matters than the enfranchisement of the Uitlanders, including arbitration, but the Boers wanted this question settled first. Then came the opening of Parliament and the Queen's Speech, in which the policy of the Government was clearly foreshadowed, and the significance of which appears to have been generally applied in England. But the reply of the Transvaal Government was long in coming. At length it was announced that Mr. KRUGER was considering a new scheme, granting a five years' franchise to the Uitlanders without any irksome restrictions and giving the Rand a quarter of the seats in the Volksraad, but it was also understood that the President would ask for a *quid pro quo* with regard to the British suzerainty. Then came the announcement that President KRUGER's reply had been received, and it was understood that it advanced fresh proposals. The next day it was stated that the Presi-

dent's definitive reply had not been sent, but merely a tentative summary of the new proposals, which included a five years' franchise, a one-fifth representation on the first Volksraad, and an understanding that there should be no further interference in the internal affairs of the republic. The following day (24th inst.) it was announced that the President's reply had reached the Colonial Office, but nothing regarding its contents had been made known in London. Cape advices, however, confirmed the statement as to the alleged new proposals, and added that President KRUGER demanded the abandonment of the British suzerainty. Things now began to look ominous, and this impression deepened on the arrival of Reuter's message of the 25th inst. which said that it had transpired that the Transvaal and the Orange Free State have imported immense quantities of arms and munitions of war during the past three years. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN's speech at Birmingham, summarised in the message of the 27th inst., still further increased apprehension of an unfavourable ending of the negotiations. The Right Hon. the Secretary of State evidently then felt that a crisis was at hand, for he said, after expressing regret that no progress had been made in the negotiations:—"Great Britain had exhibited patience unparalleled in relations between a paramount Power and a subordinate State. The issue of peace and war were in the hands of President KRUGER, and if further delay continued the Government would not hold itself limited by what it had already offered, but would secure conditions finally establishing Great Britain's paramount power in South Africa." The telegram received on the 29th inst., and published to-day, stating that the Transvaal has notified, in reply to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN's last despatch, that it adheres to its latest offer, and declines to make further concessions, still came as somewhat of a surprise, though events lately had been leading up to such a consummation. It would now appear that the Boers have been only seeking to gain time, and have been maturing their preparations for a resort to hostilities. Fortunately the British Government has not been inactive in this direction, for they have, while exhausting all the resources of diplomacy, been providing against the contingency of failure of the negotiations. On the 6th inst. it was announced that the Manchester Regiment had been ordered to proceed from Gibraltar to the Cape; on the 7th, it was stated the Royal Munster Fusiliers had been ordered to the Cape; on the 9th, that Colonel PLUMER and eight officers had arrived at Bulawayo, near which place a special camp was being formed; on the 11th, that all the shipping companies under charter with the Admiralty for transport purposes had been notified to hold transports ready for immediate despatch; and on the 14th the *Times* said the Government had accepted the offers of Colonial contingents, which with the troops from India would make a force of 25,000 men, to be increased, in case of necessity, by 30,000 more from England. The two regiments first named have sailed for the Cape, but it is to be hoped that others are ready to follow immediately, as it is pretty plain the Boers mean to strike the first blow. They are believed to meditate a raid on Delagoa Bay, and may possibly carry the war into British territory before the reinforcements arrive there. This war that seems to be impending is deeply to be deplored, for however confident we may feel as to the ultimate result, it must needs entail the loss of many gallant lives.

A STEAM LAUNDRY WANTED.

(Daily Press, 29th August.)

At Penang attention has been called to the fact that some Kling dhobies there hire out bed and table linen belonging to their employers at Kling funerals. These articles serve as winding-sheets and coverings for the bier. At the grave they are removed and handed back to the dhoby, with his fee. We have not to put up with anything quite so revolting as that in connection with our washing in Hongkong, though the practice on the part of washermen of letting out clothes entrusted to them is said to be not unknown. Apart from the question of hiring out, however, the conditions under which clothes are washed and got up here are sufficiently disgusting, especially when plague and other infectious diseases are about. A steam laundry has recently been established at Yokohama and is, we believe, doing well. Should the experiment prove successful it will be an encouragement to other Eastern ports to make a trial of the same system. In Hongkong the trial has already been made, and it unfortunately proved a failure, chiefly owing, we think, to the fact that there was not sufficient technical knowledge of the laundry business brought to bear upon the management. Another trial on more business-like lines would probably yield a different result. The Hongkong Hotel finds it profitable to run a steam laundry of its own, and a labour-saving device that pays one single establishment would assuredly pay the colony as a whole. Even Aden, if we are correctly informed, can support a steam laundry. It is not, however, so much on the grounds of economy and of labour saving that such an establishment is wanted in Hongkong as on sanitary grounds.

THE "BEACONSFIELD" MUDDLE.

(Daily Press, 26th August.)

The "Beaconsfield" muddle became more muddled than ever, at Thursday's meeting of the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council. A vote of \$20,000 was asked for to cover the cost of alterations and repairs to the property known as "Beaconsfield" and the legal expenses to which the Government had been rendered liable in consequence of a decision of the Supreme Court in a suit arising out of the affair. The Colonial Secretary, in reply to the Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD, said:—"I am not aware of any compromise being offered." The Acting Attorney-General, on the other hand, says:—"It is only fair, I should inform the Council that a compromise was suggested and that I advised the Government to accept that compromise. I strongly advised the Government—no strongly as I could—to accept that compromise, but the Government did not do so." Everyone was much surprised that the Government should have fought such a hopelessly bad case, and it is satisfactory to find that the Acting Attorney-General was not responsible for the mistake. But who, then, was responsible? The Colonial Secretary says "the Government in taking the matter into court did so believing that they were acting in the best interests of the ratepayers, notwithstanding any advice given to them." The Government must always be credited with good intentions, but it is unfortunate that the official view of the best interests of the ratepayers so frequently varies from that of the ratepayers themselves.

THE TANG CHEUNG-TSAI MURDER AND GOVERNMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY.

(Daily Press, 30th August.)

The references in the New Territory blue book to the murder of TANG CHEUNG-TSAI, the man employed to post the Governor's proclamation, are of a confusing character. The mistake made in allowing the unfortunate man to undertake the work without adequate protection seems to have been recognised as soon as the crime was brought to light, but the allusions made to the occurrence appear to be intended to slur over the error. In a minute to the Colonial Secretary dated 28th April H.E. the Governor says:—"I see it stated that the murdered man was sent in by Government. I did not know this; but even had he been so sent there was nothing to show you that there was the slightest danger to be apprehended. On the contrary, the reports received were to the effect that the people were ready to receive the British rule gladly." It was on the 17th April that TANG was seized and on the night of the same day the murder took place. The proclamation is dated the 7th April and presumably the posting of it would commence on the 8th. The dates are of importance in considering the responsibility of the Government in the unfortunate affair. On the 31st March resistance was offered to the erection of masts at Taipoh and on the same day the Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART brought in an inflammatory placard. On the 2nd April the Governor made his memorable visit to the Viceroy of Canton to appeal to that functionary to send troops for the preservation of order in the district pending the establishment of British authority, the date for which stood fixed at that time for the 17th April. On the 3rd the Hon. F. H. MAY and his party of police were attacked and on the 4th Major-General GASCOIGNE went out with a hundred men of the garrison. On the same day, the 4th, the Governor telegraphed to the Viceroy, through the Consul, again urging that troops might be sent; and on the 5th another telegram to the same effect was despatched. On the 7th the Governor's proclamation was issued. At that time the disturbed state of the territory and the threatened resistance to the occupation had become generally known and the position was freely discussed in the newspapers. Yet in the face of all this His Excellency writes on the 28th April, in paragraph 12 of his despatch to the Secretary of State:—"All this time Mr. STEWART LOCKHART was assured by Chinese, to whom he looked for information, that the people were all anxious that we should take over the territory, the gentry alone being antagonistic." And on the 26th April, in his minute already quoted, His Excellency writes to the Colonial Secretary that "there was nothing to show you"—i.e. subsequent to the 7th April, the date of the proclamation—"that there was the slightest danger to be apprehended." Yet before the 7th April His Excellency had paid his visit to the Viceroy, British troops had been sent into the territory, and the prevailing disorder was generally known. It was not until the 17th that the unfortunate man lost his life, on which day it appears that he had returned to his village from Hongkong. Whether on that occasion he was directly sent by the Government or went of his own accord does not appear, but in the disturbed state of the country it was imprudent, to say the least, to engage one of the villagers to post the proclamations and so expose him

to the enmity of his fellow-villagers and at the same time not surround him with adequate protection. In a despatch to the General Officer Commanding, dated midnight, 3rd April, referring to the sending of troops, the Governor concludes as follows: "But have a prudent officer in command, remembering that at present we are practically trespassing." Trespassing seems to have been the origin of the whole trouble. Seeing that it was open to the Government to fix its own date for the occupation what occasion was there for it to anticipate that date and send its officers on a trespassing expedition without a sufficient force to back them up and preserve order in the territory?

AN ANGLO-RUSSIAN CONFLICT AT HANKOW.

JARDINE'S FENCING REMOVED BY COSSACKS.

THE "WOODLARK" AND "ESK" TO THE RESCUE.

THE VOLUNTEERS CALLED OUT.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAMS TO THE "DAILY PRESS."] Shanghai, 26th August.

At Hankow, Cossacks having interfered with Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.'s fencing around their property on the so called Russian concession, the *Woodlark*, under orders from home, landed an armed party. The Cossacks retired.

Shanghai, 27th August.

The *Esk* has gone to Hankow to-day. The English Volunteers at Hankow have been called out.

Shanghai, 28th August.

Quiet has been restored at Hankow. The fencing round Messrs. Jardine Matheson & Company's property has been completed. The landing party from the *Woodlark* has been withdrawn.

ANTI-FOREIGN RIOT IN SZECHUEN.

SAFETY OF THE MISSIONARIES.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."] Shanghai, 31st August.

A riot occurred on the 23rd August at Shuen-king, Szechuen.

The missionaries escaped.

SUPREME COURT.

28th August.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR W. MEIGH GOODMAN (ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE) AND MR. JUSTICE WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

CHAU KING APPELLANT V. LO CHEUNG MAN RESPONDENT.

This was a notice of motion for leave to appeal against the decision of the Police Magistrate (Mr. T. Sercombe Smith), whereby the appellant was sentenced to six months imprisonment in June last for robbery from a fishing junk.

Mr. Robinson (instructed by Messrs. Mounsey and Bruton) appeared for the appellant.

The case came before the court a fortnight ago. Since then the respondent—a fisherman—has been served with notice of motion for leave to appeal for a re-hearing to the full court, and affidavits in proof of this were produced. The respondent, however, on his name being called did not answer.

Mr. Robinson submitted that he had the opportunity of making an application for the allowance of the appeal forthwith, or at any rate for the allowance of the motion asking for a re-hearing.

The Acting Chief Justice observed that in the first instance the Magistrate convicted the appellant. An application for a re-hearing was granted, and on that re-hearing the Magistrate confirmed his previous sentence. Now there was an application for another re-hearing, and before that application could be granted some valid and full reasons must be given why the case should be re-heard.

Mr. Robinson submitted that on the cases he proposed to read the court was bound within the four corners of the section of the Ordinance to grant the appeal.

The Acting Chief Justice—We have power to dismiss the appeal or grant a re-hearing.

After some argument, the Acting Chief Justice asked—What are your grounds for a re-hearing? You have given notice of motion on three grounds.

Mr. Robinson said that with regard to the grounds of action there were three. The court had disposed of one on the question of law. With regard to the merits of the case he submitted that there was a very strong case on the face of the depositions for granting the re-hearing. To sum up the case for the prosecution as presented by the prosecutor and his wife it was as follows: The story of the prosecutor was that on the 15th June last, at about five o'clock in the afternoon, four men in a big sampan and unarmed came and boarded his junk, and in dead silence took away his fish, whilst he remained at the bow of the junk looking on. He might comment on that that notwithstanding the dead silence observed the complainant knew that the big sampan belonged to the Cheung Cha shop, and the next morning, he said, he rowed himself ashore in the said big sampan and went to the Cheung Cha shop to get the money. He demanded the Hongkong price for the fish, which had then been delivered at the shop. Payment was refused, and so about three or four o'clock on the 16th June he reported the robbery to the police at Tai Ho. The story of the complainant's wife confirmed this. She also said the robbery was effected in complete silence; that her husband was at the stern (he said he was at the bow); and that he went ashore the following morning not in the big sampan but in his own boat. The wife did not explain, any more than the husband, how if the robbery was effected in complete silence and if her husband did not go ashore with the men in the big sampan, he knew where to go to ask for money, which he said he did. He both knew the shop and he went there to get the money. Nor did either of them explain why when they had been robbed they waited until three or four o'clock on the following day before leaving the anchorage to go and report to the police. The complainant as well as his wife in the first instance denied that he went ashore in the big sampan the following morning. He denied that he hailed the sampan and went as a passenger ashore in her; but he was content to contradict himself a minute afterwards and say he did go in the big sampan to the ship. Then they came to the wife's story. The husband said he went ashore in the big sampan and the woman said he went ashore in the boat belonging to the junk. In order to reconcile these two statements the complainant must have gone ashore twice, and this was the story of the defence. There was a motive in the minds of these two people which induced them to conceal the fact that he twice visited the shop. The fact that they said the thing took place in dead silence went to show that they did not want the court to know that there was something said. Then the fact that the men in the sampan were unarmed went to show that they were not pirates. He submitted that on the story of the prosecution there was not sufficient evidence to warrant the committal of this man. Now they came to the case as stated by the defence. The appellant said he and the men who were with him in the sampan belonged to a fish shop which had a branch in Hongkong and carried on business in the island of Ah Chau. It was their custom to send round the harbour when junks come in and collect the fish from them, the price paid being the market price. If there was any bargaining to take place it took place at the shop. The appellant and the other men, being taken in the shop, went round the harbour in the ordinary course of business on the 15th of June. When they got to the complainant's junk the

complainant did not seem disposed to enter into the bargain but they talked to him and induced him to weigh up the fish, and finally he handed it over to them. The same afternoon the complainant went to the shop, in his own boat, to have a talk about the price. He asked for the Hongkong price for his fish. They haggled and did not agree and he went away. The following morning he went ashore in the big sampan, which he hailed as it was going its round. He went to the shop a second time and further haggling took place, but no bargain was arrived at. Then the man came away and in the afternoon reported the matter to the police.

The Acting-Chief Justice—It was admitted that this was the first transaction they had with this man, and he would not know their custom.

Mr. Robinson said that according to the evidence for the defence the matter was explained to complainant.

The Acting Chief Justice said the court had carefully looked into this matter, and they thought there ought to be a re-hearing. At a re-hearing the complainant was bound to support the conviction. They thought the justice of the case would be met by allowing the appeal on the re-hearing, but they did not allow any costs.

Mr. Justice Wise—I do not think you could get them.

Mr. Robinson—We certainly could not.

The Acting Chief Justice passed some strictures on the custom of going on board a poor man's junk and taking his fish and then letting him see what price he could get for it afterwards. It was like his going into a shop in Hongkong and taking the first thing which suited him without saying "by your leave," and then when the shopkeeper came to know what he should pay for it to haggle about the price, and with his being in possession he would have an advantage.

The respondent was then formally called, but there was no answer.

The Acting Chief Justice had the owner of the fish shop called up, and he lectured him on the course he had adopted. He told him that the island of Ah Chau was now under British jurisdiction, and under British jurisdiction squeezing of poor fishermen was not allowed. He had no right to instruct his men to go and take fish whether a man wanted to sell or not.

29th August.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR W. MEIGH GOODMAN
(ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE) AND A
SPECIAL JURY.

BELILIOS V. PALMER AND TURNER.

This was a claim for \$6,800 made by the Hon. E. R. Belilios, C.M.G., upon Messrs. Palmer and Turner, civil engineers and architects, which he alleged they had improperly paid to a contractor.

Mr. E. Robinson (instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. M. W. Slade (instructed by Messrs. Johnson, Stokes, and Master) for the defendants.

The special jury was composed of Messrs. J. J. B. Heemskerk, E. S. Whealler, P. E. H. Melbye, R. H. Hill, John Barton, H. U. Jeffries, and F. G. Collins.

Mr. Robinson said the usual custom was to commence by reading the pleadings, and he would now proceed to read the petition and answer. The petition stated that in or about the month of February, 1898, the plaintiff employed the defendants to prepare plans and specifications for the erection on Kowloon Inland Lot No. 758, at Yaumati, of 13 Chinese houses, and to obtain tenders and prepare a contract for the erection of the houses. A contract was entered into between the plaintiff and a contractor named Tsang Sam, whereby the latter agreed to complete the 13 Chinese houses in a workmanlike manner and with the best materials on or about the 1st November, 1898, according to the plans and specifications prepared by the defendants. It was further agreed that the plaintiff should pay to Tsang Sam for the full and perfect completion of the houses the sum of \$19,500, and that payment should be made by monthly

instalments at the rate of 80 per cent. of the value of the work done and materials supplied, upon production of a certificate from the architects showing the value of the work done and materials provided. Tsang Sam commenced work and abandoned it on the 17th December, 1898, and left the colony. Up to that date the plaintiff had paid to Tsang Sam sums amounting in all to \$14,000 upon certificates signed by the defendants as architects. On the 17th December, 1898, Tsang Sam had in fact only done work and provided materials to the value of \$9,000, and should only have received in respect thereof \$7,200. The plaintiff in his petition alleged that the defendants through negligence and in breach of their duty to the plaintiff gave to Tsang Sam certificates enabling him to obtain from the plaintiff the sum of \$6,800 more than was properly due. The defendants in their answer stated that the amounts stated in their certificates as due and owing were estimated with due care and skill and that between \$17,000 and \$18,000 was a fair estimate of the value of the work done and the materials supplied. The defendants denied that they were guilty of negligence or any breach of duty. Continuing, Mr. Robinson said that from this petition and answer the jury would have a rough idea of the case. The question which they would be asked and to which they would have to give an answer was this. On the 29th November, 1898, which was the date of the last certificate given by the architects, what proportion of work had been done and what quantity of materials had been supplied? If they gave the answer that so much work was done the rest was merely a matter of arithmetic—to find out whether anything was overpaid and if so how much. Mr. Robinson proceeded to detail how Mr. Belilios came to build on the land in question. Some time in July, 1897, Mr. Belilios inspected the land in company with Mr. Palmer, and on the way Mr. Palmer pointed out certain houses which he said had been built for \$1,200 each and were letting at \$26 a month. Mr. Belilios, struck by what Mr. Palmer said, gave him instructions to prepare plans and specifications for building. Plans and specifications were prepared and tenders were invited. When the tenders came in it was seen that that of Tsang Sam was the lowest and that it was for \$1,500 a house, or \$19,500 altogether. Mr. Belilios was not pleased with this, and let the thing drop, but subsequently agreed to accept the tender, instructing the defendants, as the contractor could not find a surety, to always see that in paying for work and materials there was a margin in hand. On the 23rd February, 1898, the contract was signed, the contractor undertaking to have the work completed in a satisfactory and workmanlike manner by the 1st November, 1898. After dealing somewhat in detail with the different paragraphs in the contract, Mr. Robinson said that up to the 22nd June, 1898—some four months after the signing of the contract—three certificates had been granted by the defendants amounting altogether to \$1,000, or \$1,000 a month. Up to then Mr. Palmer was in the colony, and it was fairly evident that care had been taken not to over-value the work done; care was taken that the contractor did not get more than 80 per cent. of the value of the work done and the materials provided; but from the 22nd June to the 15th October—also a period of about four months—the contractor received \$9,500, which was at the rate of about \$3,000 a month. Between the period when Mr. Palmer had care of the work and the period when Mr. Turner was in charge there was a very marked difference in the rate at which the money was paid out to the contractor. The last payment was made to the contractor on November 29th, which was nearly a month after the time within which it had been stipulated the work should have been completed. Subsequently Mr. Turner wrote Mr. Belilios stating that the work had been proceeding in an unsatisfactory manner for some weeks and that the high wind had brought down a portion of the walls. On December 15th the contractor asked for another certificate, and on this being refused he replied that he could not get any tiles until he had got some money. Then steps were taken to arrange with someone else to complete the work. According to the certificates work had been done and materials supplied to the value of

\$17,500. Deducting this sum from \$19,500 left \$2,000, and Mr. Belilios ought to have been able to get the work completed for that sum, and in addition he ought to have \$3,500 in hand, as it was arranged that only 80 per cent. of the value of the work done and materials supplied should be paid monthly; but when tenders came in the lowest was for \$10,700. On the 8th March Mr. Belilios went over to Yaumati himself to look at the work, and he was very much surprised with what he saw. He found nothing but a shell—bare walls and absolutely nothing to them. He accordingly wrote the defendants saying that he was dissatisfied and was advised that they had been grossly negligent and had certified for more than was due—that the value of the work done and materials supplied was nothing like \$17,500. Hence the action.

Evidence for the plaintiff was then called.

The further hearing was adjourned.

30th August.

The plaintiff, who gave his evidence the previous day, again entered the witness box, and with the permission of his Lordship Mr. Slade put a few more questions to him. He replied that when Mr. Danby surveyed the premises for him he made a report to him in writing. The report was in his advocate's hands.

Mr. Slade asked for the report to be produced.

Mr. Robinson refused to produce it on the ground of privilege. When Mr. Danby was in the box it would be produced.

Mr. Slade said that if Mr. Robinson would undertake to produce Mr. Danby's report and also Mr. Harker's report later on he would waive his right to call for them now.

Mr. Robinson refused to give any undertaking except that he could produce those parts of the reports giving estimates of the value of the work done to the building.

The report of Mr. Danby was handed to his Lordship, who, after he had perused it, held that Mr. Slade was entitled to have it produced.

Mr. Robinson—Will your Lordship note my strong objection to that?

His Lordship—Yes.

Subsequently his Lordship observed to Mr. Slade—Except you have some authority I think you are asking for more than you are entitled to.

Mr. Slade—I think the authorities are perfectly clear.

His Lordship—Find me one or two.

Mr. Slade—I think I can find them rather quickly.

His Lordship said he would consult with Mr. Justice Wise as to whether Mr. Slade was entitled to the production of the reports of Mr. Danby and Mr. Harker.

The point, however, was settled by Mr. Robinson agreeing to put in the report on the witness being perfectly satisfied with this.

Li Ah Ping, a contractor, said he had inspected Mr. Belilios's houses at Yaumati with the object of sending in a tender for their completion and valuing the work already done. He valued the work done and gave the figure to Mr. Belilios. He then sent in a tender to complete the work. His first tender was for \$11,700, but he ultimately agreed to do the work for \$11,250.

The case was further adjourned and is still proceeding.

INTERESTING FUNCTION AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

SIR THOMAS JACKSON PRESENTED
WITH HIS LETTERS PATENT.

On the invitation of His Excellency the Governor (Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G.), a large and representative company assembled at Government House on Wednesday for the purpose of witnessing an interesting and unique ceremony so far as Hongkong is concerned, namely, the presentation to Sir Thomas Jackson, chief manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, of the letters patent conferring on him the dignity of knighthood.

Viscount SUTCLIFFE (His Excellency's Private Secretary) read aloud the letters patent, which are inscribed on vellum and have attached to them the Great Seal of England, and they were then handed amidst applause to Sir Thomas.

The company then sat down to listen. Sir Thomas occupying the seat of honour to the right of His Excellency. Subsequently

His Excellency rose and said—Ladies and gentlemen, I ask you to join with me in drinking the health of Sir Thomas Jackson—(applause)—to whom it was such a pleasure to me a short time ago to hand Her Majesty's letters patent. In saying that the dignity conferred upon Sir Thomas Jackson was richly merited I speak not alone from my personal observation, but from the tongue of good report, that crystallized estimate of a man who has been for many years in a prominent position before the public, and whose acts and thoughts and feelings have become factors in the general welfare. (Hear, hear.) I may say I think without exaggeration that from the time Sir Thomas Jackson became manager of that institution which his financial genius has placed in such an enviable position, he has been a very prominent factor in the advancement of British political and commercial interests in this Far East, of which people at home hear so much and know so little. In conferring this dignity upon Sir Thomas Jackson, Her Majesty the Queen has but given expression to the opinion of the community in these regions—that is of all who know him, and when I say all who know him I mean everybody whose interest has brought him here or who is represented in Far Cathay, for who does not know T. J. P. (Applause.) I believe, ladies and gentlemen, that if letters were dropped in the post in St. Petersburg, Berlin, Paris, London, Dacca, Santa Fe, and the little post office of the Straits of Magellan addressed "T. J. China," they would find their way into the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank in Queen's Road—(applause)—and I am further assured that if these letters were on business matters the writers would receive answers showing a wide grasp of general principles, a complete mastery of details, and a levelheaded determination that whatever action was taken or advice given should be honest and just. (Hear, hear.) I may be forgiven in feeling a patriotic pride in welcoming my countryman Sir Thomas Jackson to the brotherhood of knight-hood, because while fully appreciating the energy and the capabilities of the many Scotchmen and Englishmen who are forwarding British interests in the Far East, I think it can hardly be denied that the three names which stand out most prominently in these regions are the names of three Irishmen—McLeary Brown, Robert Hart, and Thomas Jackson. (Applause.) We may assume that successful in business, supremely happy in his family relations—(hear, hear)—enjoying the confidence and esteem of a community reaching over 30 degrees of latitude, even this evidence of Her Majesty's appreciation of Sir Thomas Jackson can hardly add to the happiness of which it would seem that the cup must be nearly full—(hear, hear.)—but it must be a satisfaction to the community to know that even in this farthest point of our world-wide empire good work for the general interest of the empire will not be forgotten—(hear, hear.)—and the Order of Knight-hood may well welcome Sir Thomas Jackson as a member, because "an honest man is the noblest work of God." (Applause.) I ask you to join with me in drinking the health of Sir Thomas Jackson and wishing him long life and the enjoyment in the future of that happiness and success which he has always enjoyed in the past. (Applause.)

Sir THOMAS, who was heartily greeted on rising to respond, said—Your Excellency, ladies and gentlemen, I very gratefully respond to the toast of His Excellency proposing my health. The distinction which has come to me I look upon as a very marked one. I believe I am the very first joint stock Bank manager who has ever received the decoration of knight-hood. This is no small compliment not only to myself personally, but also to the Bank I serve and the Colony I reside in. (Hear, hear.) Coming to Hongkong in the year 1864, I have spent some two-thirds of a pretty active life here. I feel that my best efforts have been far too richly recognized, and if they had been twice as good they would not have been good enough. In connection with the position which the Bank now holds it would be very unjust in me and very inconsiderate of me to my colleagues to encroach even the greater share of the credit. The Bank has assumed a very forward

and pronounced position not only in finance and commerce but also to a certain extent in politics. Of those politics I am profoundly innocent, but in this line my able colleague Mr. Cameron and my equally esteemed and able colleague in Peking, Mr. Hillier, have done sterling service to the empire. They have been behind the scenes in a way perhaps that even Her Majesty's Ministers have not always been, and everything they could possibly do to forward the welfare of the empire has been done willingly and ungrudgingly. (Hear, hear.) The Hongkong Bank I may look upon as my No. 1 wife. (Laughter.) I am more sincerely attached to her than to any other. (Laughter.) It has had my attention for 35 years, and while it would be unknighly and unwise to quarrel with any lady, such a mistress as this deserves the heart and soul and all the energy a man is capable of. (Hear, hear.) When in the north of China a short time ago I met a globetrotter—an extremely nice old fellow, an American, who was most genial. He started from San Francisco, went to New York, London, Bombay, Calcutta, Singapore, and called at Hongkong, and he said that wherever he went this side heaven, there he found the Hongkong Bank. (Applause.) The Hongkong Bank has been associated with the prosperity of Hongkong. When I came here in 1865—some 24 years after the colony was formed—I found things not in so prosperous a state as they might have been. There had been failures and a number of princely firms had disappeared. There was a good deal of uphill work, but there was grit in this little colony which enabled it to pull through. Your Excellency, I have the greatest opinion of the future of Hongkong. I am perfectly sure, situated as we are near the great empire of China—for whatever her internal condition may be, she is and must always remain, with her four hundred million people, an important factor in the politics of the world—we have the opportunity of forwarding the welfare of the British empire and showing an example to the adjacent empire. I thank your Excellency most sincerely for asking this company to meet me here to-day. This is a red-letter day to me and a day which I shall always remember. (Applause.)

The proceedings then terminated.

THE NEW TERRITORY BLUE BOOK.

A blue book containing "Despatches and other Papers relating to the Extension of the Colony of Hongkong" was laid on the table of the Legislative Council on 24th Aug. The contents occupy 69 pages. The series opens with a despatch by the Governor to the Secretary of State, dated 17th March, 1899, reporting a discussion with Mr. Wong Tsun-shiu, the Chinese Commissioner for the delimitation of the frontier, in which His Excellency endeavoured to show him that it would be to the mutual advantage of China and the Hongkong Government to have Shamchun and Shataukok included in the leased territory. It was clear that the commissioner had orders not to grant these places and His Excellency then thought it well to have the river boundary formally agreed to as a provisional measure, leaving the pressing demand for the boundary of the base of the hills to the North open for further consideration at Peking.

Then follow documents relating to the delimitation of the river boundary and reports of the earlier disturbances and the obstruction offered to the building of the mat-sheds. On the 1st April Mr. Stewart Lockhart went to the Governor taking with him an inflammatory placard that was being posted in the villages of the leased area. At the same time the information was given to His Excellency that the workmen erecting the mat-sheds had been stopped by threats. His Excellency in a subsequent despatch writes:

"Mr. Stewart Lockhart, who has a long experience in China, said that the consequences of the issue of this placard and the stoppage of the work of erecting the mat-sheds would be very serious. He suggested that I should send him to Canton to see the Viceroy, as not a moment should be lost. I concluded that if it was necessary to see the Viceroy I had better see him myself. I telegraphed to the Consul at Canton that I desired to see the Viceroy next day, and next morning started

from here at 5 a.m., taking Mr. Stewart Lockhart with me."

THE GOVERNOR'S VISIT TO THE VICEROY.

The visit to the Viceroy is described in the following despatch dated 7th April from the Governor to the Secretary of State:

"With reference to my despatch No. 82 of the 1st instant, I have the honour to inform you that on the 2nd instant I proceeded at 5.30 a.m. to Canton in Her Majesty's ship *Fame* and arrived at 10 o'clock the Viceroy having informed the Consul that he would receive me at 11 a.m. I was accompanied by Mr. Stewart Lockhart, Colonial Secretary, and the members of my staff. On proceeding from the Consulate to the Viceroy's Yamen, I found that preparations had been made for my reception that I did not expect. The streets for the two miles or so between the Consulate and the Yamen had been washed and cleaned, and were lined with troops throughout the entire distance. There were between 1,600 and 1,800 men, armed with muzzle loaders and rifles of various patterns, in addition to which a large proportion carried revolvers. I noticed that all the arms were quite clean and apparently well kept. The streets were decorated with flags on long poles and there were dense crowds who were perfectly respectful. I was received by the Viceroy with the usual ceremonies and at once entered upon the business of my visit, Mr. Pitzipios, the Vice-Consul, interpreting most admirably.

"After some preliminary observations he remarked that the friendship between England and China had been of long standing; on which I assured him that England was China's best friend, and it was with the most friendly feelings that I had done myself the honour of visiting him to request his immediate attention to certain acts of intimidation and attempts to lead the people of the leased territory astray by an inflammatory placard that had been posted in many villages, a copy of which I handed to him with the name of the person who had written it. Knowing the friendly feelings of His Excellency and feeling that he would take immediate action, I had determined to bring the matter personally to his notice rather than telegraph to London and Peking that disorder was threatened in his Province. I therefore requested that the writer of the placard should be made answerable and punished.

"He answered that he could not possibly find the person who wrote the placard. To this I demurred. He said I did not know China or I would realize the difficulty. I answered that I knew China sufficiently to know that if His Excellency wanted to find any person in his province that person would be forthcoming. He said the name given might not be the real culprit. Whom did I want punished? I answered that I had not come to him to demand the punishment of any person other than the real culprit, but to insure that the territory leased in extension of Hongkong should not be allowed to become a prey to agitators pending the taking over of the territory by me; that I had postponed the taking over of the territory to the 17th instant for the purpose of having mat-sheds erected in which to house the officials and police who would be stationed there while proper houses and barracks were being built, and to give him time to arrange the stations for the Customs now that the boundary had been settled. On this His Excellency said that there was no occasion for erection of new Customs stations as the Customs would remain where they were. I answered that such a course was impossible. He said this country is only leased. It is China, and there is nothing about Customs in the Convention. I answered that whether leased, lent, or ceded, as soon as the British flag is hoisted it becomes for the time as effectually British territory as Government House, Hongkong, and the Chinese Customs flags must be hauled down. I pointed out that all the waters of Mirs Bay and Deep Bay as well as the coast line to the South becoming British under the Convention, it was impossible that the Chinese Customs authorities could act, as even if a vessel were found in these waters with contraband on board she could not be seized for having them in Chinese waters or territory, and if resistance were offered to search and life was lost the Custom officers would be put on their trial for murder in the Courts at Hongkong. He demurred at this, declaring in such a case that they would be tried in China.

that if the Customs were to be moved, the Convention was at an end; that the boundary question was not yet settled as he had not signed the delimitation, and other arguments. I pointed out to His Excellency that the provisional boundary had been settled by two officers regularly accredited and gazetted in Hongkong and Canton and was therefore in accordance with the Convention, and that if timely measures were not taken by him for the protection of that frontier China must suffer serious loss of revenue by smuggling.

"His Excellency then said, 'It is not in the Convention. I cannot remove them. If you insist on this then all is at an end. The Convention is at an end and there is no boundary.'"

"Your Excellency is mistaken," I answered. "The Convention has been made by the respective Imperial Governments. Neither you nor I can alter that." "Is it then agreed that the boundary is as delimited?" he asked. I said, "It is." (I had received the telegram from Peking that any further extension had been firmly declined.)

"I then called His Excellency's attention categorically to my complaints. I said the people who were erecting the mat-sheds had been threatened and were obliged to cease working, and that this inflammatory placard handed to him was being extensively posted. I had no wish to use language that was not of the most friendly character, but I felt it my duty to call upon him to take without delay the necessary steps, first, to have the placards removed and the person who wrote them brought to justice; second, to supply ample protection for the parties working on mat-sheds; third, to supply similar protection to parties surveying roads that we proposed to make for the benefit of the people. He said, 'I will send a telegram to the San On Magistrate to do what you ask.' I said, 'I must demand something more definite from Your Excellency. As for the San On Magistrate I can expect no help from him. I am informed by Mr. Stewart Lockhart, our Commissioner for delimitation, that he has been only a hindrance and thrown difficulties in the way of delimitation on every occasion. I must beg that Your Excellency will yourself give the necessary order, and I must also beg that I be informed that they have been obeyed by Tuesday next, otherwise I will proceed to hoist the British flag and take over the territory on Wednesday. At present I do not propose to do so until the 17th instant, when the mat-sheds will be ready for occupation."

"His Excellency, having consulted with several Mandarins at the table, said he did not think that all the men could be there before Wednesday. I said that I would not in that case make any move before Thursday, but while I knew how anxious His Excellency was to do everything in his power I was aware that in China orders are not always carried out with necessary promptitude. I would therefore impress upon His Excellency the necessity of my being informed on Wednesday that they had been carried out to prevent my acting on Thursday. I would also request that the San On Magistrate be ordered to personally visit the villages accompanied by other officials and issue a proclamation by order of His Excellency warning the people against disturbances or interference with any working parties or surveyors. This His Excellency promised to do. I said I had a more pleasing duty to perform in assuring His Excellency that the Government of Hongkong had determined to bring in an Ordinance the effect of which, I hoped, would render opium smuggling into China almost impossible, and also that I had issued a proclamation under the provisions of which I had prevented the export of arms to China. His Excellency expressed much pleasure at this information.

"The interview, which had lasted over two-and-a-half hours, then ended. His Excellency apologised for being unable to return my visit, as I informed him that I was returning to Hongkong forthwith. During the interview the Audience Hall was crowded, the place being apparently open to all-comers. Immediately after my return to the Consulate two mandarins arrived bearing the Viceroy's cards, who said that urgent telegrams had already been sent in accordance with my request. I left Canton at 4.45 p.m. and arrived at Hongkong at 10 p.m."

THE VICEROY ON THE CUSTOMS QUESTION.

It will be observed that in the above despatch His Excellency states that he clearly informed the Viceroy that the Customs Stations must be removed.

On the 10th April the Viceroy in a despatch to Mr. Consul Mansfield wrote:—

"I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your despatch stating that the Governor of Hongkong proposes to take over the New Territory on April 17.

"The Kowloon Kuan is Chinese territory, but, on account of the friendship existing between England and China, it has been leased to England. On April 2, when the Governor of Hongkong came to Canton to see me, I firmly insisted that the Customs Stations could on no account be removed, to which the Governor of Hongkong personally agreed. Just as he was leaving, I again said that it was not necessary to allude to the question of the removal of the Customs. The Governor of Hongkong also said that it was not necessary to mention this, again, and that he had only to ask me to send soldiers to the place to restore order. I forthwith sent 600 men take up their quarters at Kowloon, thus paying due regard to friendly relations.

"Yesterday in a telegram (marked Yen) from the Tsungli Yamen it was stated that a despatch had been received from the British Minister to the effect that the Chinese Customs could not be allowed to remain within the New Territory. Thus the agreement made between Wang Wei-yuan and Mr. Lockhart and the statements of the Governor of Hongkong, made at the interview of April 2, are insufficient as proof, and we will cease to discuss the proposition to take over the territory on the 17th.

"I beg you to at once inform the Governor of Hongkong that it will be needless for him to proceed to Kowloon on the 17th."

On the 15th April the Colonial Secretary wrote to the Consul:—

"I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant enclosing copy of a despatch addressed to you by the Viceroy on the subject of the removal of the Chinese Customs from the New Territory leased to Great Britain by the Chinese Government.

"His Excellency the Governor regrets to find that the Viceroy has so entirely misunderstood the repeated statements made to him on the subject at the interview between their respective Excellencies on the 2nd instant, as nothing could have been more distinct than the Governor's emphatic statement to the Viceroy that the Customs Stations could not be permitted to remain in the leased Territory.

"Under authority received from Her Majesty's Government, His Excellency the Governor has made arrangements to take over the administration of the leased Territory on the 17th instant, and will hoist the British Flag at 1 p.m. on that date at Taipohu.

"His Excellency will, therefore, be glad if His Excellency the Viceroy will depute an Officer of suitable rank to be present at the ceremony as a mark of the cordial relations that exist between the two nations.

"As the entire administration will be assumed by this Government on the 17th instant, the necessity for the presence of Chinese troops in the New Territory will cease on that date and their place will be taken by British troops and Police.

"The functions of all Chinese Officials will, of course, cease at the same time, and no doubt arrangements will be made by the Viceroy for their withdrawal on the 17th instant.

"In communicating the above to the Viceroy, I am to ask you to be good enough to again express to His Excellency an expression of the Governor's thanks for the promptitude with which His Excellency sent troops to maintain order in the New Territory pending His Excellency the Governor's assumption of the Government."

On the 15th April the Viceroy wrote to the Consul as follows:—

"I am in receipt of your despatch stating that the Governor of Hongkong had written to the effect that I had altogether misunderstood him with regard to the question of the Customs Stations discussed at our interview.

"During our interview on April 2, the Governor of Hongkong first said that the Customs

must be removed. I strongly insisted that they could on no account be removed. When the Governor was leaving, I asked if the delimitation was to be regarded as settled. His Excellency replied that it was. I again said that it was not necessary to again refer to the question of the removal of the Customs. The Governor replied that it was not necessary to again refer to it. I regarded this as conclusive. The words are still in my ears and I did not misunderstand.

"I am again sending Teotai Wong to Shanghai to Hongkong to personally confer and take action, and I shall feel obliged if you will inform His Excellency the Governor of this."

On the 17th the Viceroy again wrote:—
"I have received your note informing me that you had received a telegram from the Governor of Hongkong requesting me, after the flag had been hoisted, to remove every Chinese official and soldier from the New Territory.

"It is set forth in the Convention made with the Tsung-li Yamen that the Chinese officials stationed in Kowloon City shall continue to perform their duties as heretofore. Therefore there can be no question of removing them. As regards the soldiers, the Governor himself requested that they should be sent to keep order, so I sent 300 men of the Chien Battalion to take up their quarters at Kowloon and 300 men of the Fung Yen Battalion to Shin Chow to be at hand to preserve order. At the present time the Fung Yen detachment are still at Shin Chow while the Chien detachment have been moved to Sha T'ou Chio. I have telegraphed to Deputy Wang to inform the Governor of Hongkong."

THE GOVERNOR ON CHINESE OFFICIAL CONNIVANCE.

In a comprehensive despatch of the 29th April, setting out in detail the whole of the occurrences, the Governor writes to the Secretary of State:—

"I have reported the circumstances of my visit to the Viceroy in my despatch No. 87 of 7th instant. He accepted all the responsibility for the protection of the mat-sheds, which involved his permission to erect them, and, in accordance with his promise, telegraphed at once to the Colonial Secretary at Kowloon to prepare for 300 men who were to proceed to any portion of the leased area desired by this Government, so as to afford protection to the mat-sheds being erected, also to surveying parties and generally to preserve order. These soldiers were sent down within three days, and the places to which we wished them to be sent were indicated by the Colonial Secretary. The Viceroy also issued a proclamation to be posted in various villages calling upon the people to be of good behaviour and stating that the area had been leased to Great Britain by the Emperor of China. Thus the entire responsibility for the peace and good order of the leased area was undertaken by the Viceroy, as I was determined not to send any armed men into the Territory until I was about to take possession.

"This is a narrative of the events of the 19 days in the New Territory. But there are other facts that have a direct bearing upon the whole matter. It will be remembered that there was a difficulty about the question of the retention of the Customs stations in the leased area, as I pointed out that by the automatic action of the Convention the Chinese Customs officials could not continue to exercise their functions while the leased area remained under British jurisdiction, to which the Viceroy demurred. On the 10th instant, the Viceroy informed the Consul that there was no use in my proceeding to hoist the flag on the 17th instant as he declined to hand it over, because the Chinese Customs were not to be allowed to remain within the New Territory. To that despatch, after receiving your approval, I replied that under instructions from Her Majesty's Government I would proceed at 1 p.m. on the 17th to hoist the British flag, and invited His Excellency to name an Official of suitable rank to be present at the ceremony. On the 15th I was informed that Deputy Wang, who had been the Chinese Commissioner for the delimitation of the boundary, had been sent down by the Viceroy with 300 Chinese soldiers. On receipt of the message I telegraphed to the Governor of Hongkong, stating that I was opposed by the Chinese troops and that I sent for Deputy Wang and his soldiers to move."

These men were Chinese troops. He said that the Viceroy had sent him down to see that 300 men should be placed in the New Territory to 'protect it' until I took it over. I told him that I had determined to hoist the flag next morning and that all Chinese soldiers and officials must leave the leased area. On the 17th, the Commissioner of Imperial Customs conveyed to me that Deputy Wang wished to see me, and shortly after he waited upon me accompanied by Mr. Hillier, the Chinese Commissioner of Customs. Deputy Wang was anxious to discuss the Customs question, about which he had evidently been sent down, but I declined to enter upon the subject. I told him that I could not permit Chinese troops to remain in the Territory and at Kowloon, and could not understand why the Viceroy should have considered it necessary to send to Kowloon an additional force of 300 men two days before the date on which I announced that the New Territory would be taken over. He pressed the question for some time, and in the course of his remarks said something which the Chinese Customs Commissioner did not translate, saying it was mere folly, but Mr. Mansfield, Her Majesty's Consul at Canton, who was present, at once interpreted it as a statement that the 300 soldiers had been sent down to protect the Customs. I told him that it was necessary that these men should be withdrawn; he promised to telegraph to the Viceroy, and if no answer was returned, to go to Canton himself, although from the known state of the Viceroy's feelings he had little hope of obtaining the necessary authority to move. I made it clear that it would be necessary for the soldiers to withdraw whatever the state of the Viceroy's feelings. Deputy Wang stated that there were several parties of soldiers stationed all through the Territory which he would order to come to Kowloon. I said that those should be ordered to retire to Sham Chun rather than to Kowloon, to reach which place they would be obliged to march across the Territory and over the hills.

I have stated that my proclamation was posted in different parts of the leased area on and after the 7th instant. In the absence of Mr. Stewart Lockhart, who is in the New Territory, I cannot say what arrangement was made for posting it, but I presume that some native of the district was employed to post them in the usual manner. On the 20th instant, I received a petition from a wife of a man named Cheung Tsoi who was, it appears, employed to post these notices. He had posted, or distributed some, for evidence since forthcoming shows that when the leaders were declaring for resistance they said that this man must be killed if he returned to his village from Hongkong, where he then was, with any more proclamations. The evidence goes to show that early on the morning of the 18th he left Hongkong for Castle Peak Bay en route for his village of Ha-Tai. At the time a large number of the people who had been called to arms, were assembled at Castle Peak Bay. It is not clear if the man carried any of my proclamations with him, but he was seized at Castle Peak Bay and sent as a prisoner to his village, where he was confined in the meeting-house. After the defeat at Kam Tin the leader, whose name is known, with others, came to Ha-Tai, beat the man, and then shot him; put the body in a pig basket and flung it into the river. The body was subsequently found with a chain tightly fastened round the neck, and several shot wounds. Apart from the attack upon the troops this is the only outrage that has taken place during the week after the 15th instant.

In searching this meeting-house Mr. Stewart Lockhart has discovered several letters, which show the course of events previous to the outbreak of violence. And he has further obtained the statements of two of the leaders in the movement who have submitted and expressed contrition. The statements and the letters show a state of clan feeling and power of combination not unlike that of the Scottish highlands two centuries ago, and it is evident that there was no secrecy whatever in the clan meetings and public discussions on the question of resistance. Nor was there any secrecy in the manner in which help was asked for and given by affiliated societies in the turbulent district north of the border. They could not have come down as they did in considerable

numbers without the knowledge of the Viceroy's officials at Sham Chun, where they had to cross the river by a ferry. Nor could the warlike preparations have been made without the knowledge and connivance of the 600 troops which the Viceroy acknowledges that he placed in the leased area 'to preserve order.' The emplacement for guns and the entrenchments at Taipoh were never made by peasants without some direction from a person having military training of some sort.

Two of the letters found in the meeting-house mention Major Fong, who was one of the Viceroy's officers in charge of the Forces for the 'preservation of order.' One letter would appear to show that the Viceroy wished to warn the people, but the other contains the significant hint that Major Fong 'will not in any way use force but will freely allow all the villages to carry out their own settled plans.'

During the entire proceedings I have been careful to treat the Viceroy and his authorities with a scrupulous regard for international obligations. The result has shown an utter disregard of the responsibility assumed by the Viceroy of Canton, and a serious loss of life; for it is idle to ignore the fact that the assailants have suffered serious losses in their four days' hopeless contest against disciplined Forces. Nor can I look upon such needless loss of life with equanimity. The statements of Ng Ki Chung and Tang Ko Lam and the letters found in the meeting-house show that those people possess some of the qualities that make good subjects, and foolish as their opposition may have been, with exception of the murder of Cheung Tsoi after the fight at Kam Tin, their action displayed no moral turpitude. With Her Majesty's Government rests the decision whether any, or what notice, shall be taken of violated promises involving grave loss of life, serious expense, and inevitable feelings of acerbity on the part of the people of the New Territory, with whom it was my most earnest desire to establish relations of friendship and confidence from the moment of my assumption of the Government.

In one of the Colonial Secretary's minutes the following occurs:—

Among the documents found in the Un Loong meeting-house is a letter addressed by one of the underlings of Major Fong to Ng Ki-cheung. I would especially call attention to the following sentence in that letter:—'All other particulars you will know fully when you see Major Fong, who will not in any way use force, but will freely allow all the villages to carry out their own settled plans.' Ng Ki-cheung informs me that by the sentence in italics he understood that the villages could do what they liked. He says he never saw Major Fong, but that Tang I-shek went to see him at Sham Chun. Tang I-shek has been one of the ringleaders in the movement and Ng Ki-cheung informs me that Tang I-shek left this territory for Nam Tau on the 14th April and on the same day went to Sham Chun to see Major Fong. Next day he went to Canton to petition the Viceroy and Governor. If he did present a petition, it would be interesting to obtain a copy of that document.

On the 19th April (after the opposition had been subdued) the Viceroy issued a proclamation stating that the territory had been leased, that the people would not be compelled to remove, that private property would not be expropriated, and that there would be no harsh treatment, and concluding as follows:—

'We therefore think it right to circulate this second proclamation to urge you people to reform the error of your ways and to strive to be good and loyal subjects and so avoid involving yourselves in the meshes of the law.'

The above includes practically all the despatches having reference to the action by the Chinese authorities in connection with the disturbances. A few pieces of corroborative evidence showing the connivance of the Chinese authorities have been omitted.

Japanese papers state that the Chinese Government, having decided to reform the postal service and adopt the Japanese system, has applied to the Communications Department in Tokyo for the engagement of six experts. The Minister for Communications has agreed to the application. The men are to be shortly sent to China.

THE MILITARY REPORT ON THE OPERATIONS IN THE NEW TERRITORY.

In the New Territory blue book Colonel The O'Gorman's report to Major-General Gascoigne on the military operations occupies six pages. Reporting on the action of Sheung Tsun of the 18th April Colonel The O'Gorman says:—

'At about 2.30 p.m. a report was made to me that a large force of Chinese was seen approaching. On examining the situation I saw a goodly number in the far distance evidently intent on attacking us; I ordered Captain Berger to make preparations to receive these people, directing that only fresh troops should be sent out, the tired ones being left in reserve in quarters. At 3 p.m. Berger had posted his men in their allotted positions and we awaited the enemy's advance. He came on in three lines and in fairly regular formation over a perfectly level plain on dry ploughed land, waving banners and shouting loudly. It was distinctly a determined advance for Chinamen. They commenced firing at long ranges, the 3½-inch diameter shot falling close around us: some rifle bullets were heard but these were few; jingall fire was almost continuous. When within 500 yards Berger had a couple of rounds fired to make sure of the distance and to see what their effect would be; the Chinamen evidently did not like them. Berger then advanced, got his men into a water course well under cover and went straight for the enemy, who, on seeing our men, turned and bolted without firing another shot. We made a general advance, keeping up a heavy fire until the active Chinamen had got away out of range. The Hongkong Regiment fired individually and very deliberately. A few of the enemy fell but were carried away by their friends. In my opinion not many of them were hit. Seven men were observed to fall and we saw two corpses in another part of the field later on. I know it is not easy to hit running men at distances beyond 600 yards, but considering the number of rounds fired the enemy's casualties were, I believe, slight. No mau was hit on our side though several had narrow escapes, shot falling within a few feet of them. Simmonds' guns had not arrived from Fan Ling and therefore did not take any part in to-day's action.

'We pursued the flying enemy for some distance and then halted and collected the arms they left on the plain. Some seven pieces of small calibre Artillery, a quantity of jingalls, and a few old fashioned rifles were picked up.

'I cannot claim any merit for having inflicted only, as I believe, small loss upon our enemy in this action, but I am heartily glad that not many of them were killed or even hit; these rebels were mostly misguided creatures, badly armed and untrained to war, a foe utterly unworthy of a soldier's steel.

'I believe the enemy's force was pretty considerable on this occasion and that they staked their all on the issue. Their intention was to press home and crush us, believing in the vast superiority of their numbers and in a certain victory. The Chinaman had no idea of the power of the modern rifle and no heart to come to close quarters; they made no attempt at a stand.

'This defeat shattered their confidence in their warlike attempts and I then felt sure they would not again assume the offensive or openly resist our arms. Subsequent information revealed the fact that 2,600 men took part in this action, and there is good reason to believe that, at least, one-third were men who came from beyond the British boundary.

'The Viceroy of Canton might well be called upon to explain the presence of these men. If he did not send them, he certainly must have connived at their assistance in the revolt.

'It seems unnecessary to chronicle in detail the unimportant events that succeeded my return to Taipoh on the 27th ultimo. Peace had been restored in the Western portion of the district, and with judicious treatment it was fair to assume that a like confidence would soon be felt in British good government in the Northern portion of the Territory. These anticipations are being realized to the full. Petitions have been presented from some 200 villages in the New Territory.

"To the Honourable J. H. Stewart Lockhart, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, is due the admirable results that have been attained in the Civil administration of this Territory during this brief state of turmoil; his measures have been taken with great energy and ability and in a manner that, long experience has shown him, were suitable to the occasion. The result has been a most complete success.

"Only those on the spot can realize the amount of labour and care he has devoted from early morning till late at night to the discharge of these trying duties.

"A most hearty co-operation has existed throughout between us and no difference of opinion on any one point has arisen.

"In conclusion, I wish to say that great care has been taken to keep the Troops in good health and that the Medical Officer with me, Major Watson, R.A.M.C., has assisted most efficiently to this end."

HOW THE NATIVES OF THE NEW TERRITORY REGARDED THE BRITISH OCCUPATION.

The following is one of the placards posted in the New Territory before the recent disturbance occurred:—

We hate the English barbarians who are about to enter our boundaries and take our land, and will cause us endless evil. Day and night we fear the approaching danger. Certainly people are dissatisfied at this and have determined to resist the barbarians. If our fire-arms are not good, we shall be unable to oppose the enemy. So we have appointed an exercise-ground and gathered all together as patriots to drill with fire-arms. To encourage proficiency rewards will be given. On the one hand we shall be helping the Government; on the other we shall be saving ourselves from future trouble. Let all our friends and relatives bring their fire-arms to the ground and do what they can to extirpate the traitors. Our ancestors will be pleased, and so will our neighbours. This is our sincere wish. Practice takes place every day.

First prize:—One gauze coat. A packet of 1,000 crackers.

Second prize:—One pair of brown gauze trousers. A packet of 500 crackers.

Third prize:—One straw hat.

17th day 2nd moon. 25th year of Kwong-sui (28th March, 1899).

A placard issued by the Yuk-on Hin ("Wish for Peace" library) of Ping-shan.

THE CHINESE CUSTOMS AND THEIR POSITION IN THE NEW TERRITORY.

In the New Territory blue book the following despatches with reference to the Chinese Customs appear:—

TELEGRAM FROM SECRETARY OF STATE.

Sent—11th April, 1899, (10.25 p.m.).

Received—12th April, 1899.

A request has been forwarded here from Sir R. Hart that the officers of the Imperial Chinese Customs may be allowed to occupy the Cheung Chau, Capsmoon and Fotouchow stations until October, by which time new quarters should be ready for them. If you concur in this, which I consider not unreasonable, you should inform Her Britannic Majesty's Minister at Peking of your concurrence on the distinct understanding that occupation is not delayed beyond October and that only these three stations are retained.

CHAMBERLAIN.

TELEGRAM TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

12th April, 1899.

In reply to your telegram of yesterday's date I agree that the three stations mentioned should be occupied by the Customs officials pending further arrangements. But the Attorney General advises me that no power can be given them to function in the territories or waters of the Colony; and the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce points out that such functioning would severely check the circulation of local trade within the Colony. Traffic to Deep Bay would be seriously interfered with by any station S.E. of Ling Tin Island or Chek Wan Bay and the same would apply to the trade on the E. side, with reference to a station in that Quarter. The Customs officials

were warned of the impending change two months ago:

BLAKE.

(TELEGRAM FROM SECRETARY OF STATE.)

14th April, 1899.

Pending further arrangements, but in case beyond October, the Customs Stations referred to in my telegram of the 11th instant must remain occupied. You should inform Her Britannic Majesty's Minister at Peking of this arrangement, urging earliest possible withdrawal. Your proposal to assume possession on the 17th approved.

CHAMBERLAIN.

[Note.—Above telegram repeated to Peking, 14th April, 1899.]

TELEGRAM TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

14th April, 1899.

Have informed Peking. Am I to understand Customs Officers can function in the territorial waters of Colony pending removal?

BLAKE.

TELEGRAM FROM SECRETARY OF STATE.

16th April, 1899.

The Imperial Customs Officials will have no legal status. They will be in same position as those within Hongkong itself. Communicate this to Sir R. Hart.

CHAMBERLAIN.

TELEGRAM TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

21st April, 1899.

I have been able to make satisfactory local arrangements with reference to the Customs Question.

BLAKE.

The nature of the satisfactory local arrangements mentioned in the last telegram is not stated.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

The usual fortnightly meeting of the Hongkong Sanitary Board was held Thursday afternoon. The President (Dr. J. M. Atkinson) occupied the chair, and there were also present the Vice-President (the Hon. F. H. May, Captain Superintendent of Police), Mr. E. Osborne, Dr. Lawson (Acting Medical Officer of Health), and Mr. C. W. Duggan (Secretary).

INSPECTION OF THE HEALTH DISTRICTS.

The report of the sub-committee, consisting of Messrs. Ormsby, May, and Osborne, appointed to make quarterly inspections of Health Districts, was submitted. On 15th August the Committee visited and inspected the following houses in No. 5 and 6 Health Districts:—Nos. 6, 8, 9, 11, and 21 Tung Man Lane; Nos. 1, 34, and 38 Wing On Street; Nos. 1, 13, and 15 Mi Lun Lane (each three floors); No. 3 Kan U Fong, consisting of one floor; Nos. 22, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, and 30 Circular Pathway, and 14 and 16 Lower Lascar Row. Plague had occurred at 3 Kan U Fong and Nos. 27, 28, and 29 Circular Pathway. The report proceeds:—

These houses were said to have been whitewashed this year, but in most cases it is impossible to verify this, as the heat and smoke rapidly make the walls discoloured. We consider these houses from their construction ill-fitted for human habitation, and decidedly unfit for the occupation of the great number of persons who are now crowded into them. In many cases there was insufficient light and ventilation. There was no latrine accommodation, and apparently nightsoil and urine are collected in receptacles kept in the kitchens.

Considering the very limited space at their disposal, the tenants seem to do their best with it, and as a rule do not appear to be dirty or untidy in their habits. The designer or builder of those houses seems to have had but one object in view, namely, to contrive how many human beings could be crammed into and exist on the space. The staircases are therefore only barely wide enough for a stout person to pass up, and so steep that ascent or descent can only be made by hanging on to a rope. The cubicles only provide the actual space required by law for two persons, but appear often to be occupied by two adults and several children. The passage leading along the cubicles is so narrow as barely to admit of one person at a time using it. As a rule one cubicle monopolises the only window, the others only getting such air and light as passes over the top of it; they are consequently very dark. The kitchens are extremely small, and in them the cooking for all the inhabitants of each floor has to be done.

We considered the ground floors of Circular Pathway houses unfit for human habitation, and they should be condemned; they are immediately below the back premises of houses in Hollywood Road, and receive all their drainage or leakage, making them damp, unwholesome, and pervaded with foul odours. We are of opinion that in many cases no real permanent improvement can be effected in the existing buildings, and that nothing short of reconstruction, demolition, laying out of the areas with broad streets and back lanes, and compelling by law a different and more sanitary style of construction will suffice.

The only minute appended was one by Dr. Lawson:—"At Last."

The President moved that the report be forwarded to the Government, and that in the meantime the Medical Officer of Health visit the houses referred to in Circular Pathway as being unfit for human habitation.

Mr. Osborne seconded and the motion was carried.

SPECIAL CLEANSING IN THE KOWLOON HEALTH DISTRICT.

A report dated August 21st was submitted by Mr. F. Browne, the Government Analyst, as to the special cleansing in the Kowloon Health District. He said that speaking generally the houses throughout the district were found to be very clean. The cleansing and removal of rubbish in 1898 greatly improved the houses, but the householders had begun to counteract the good effects thus obtained by the erection of bunks, cubicles, and similar obstructions. In No. 11 district (Hunghom and villages) 148 floors were cleansed and limewashed and 131 obstructions removed, and in No. 12 district (Yaumati, Laikok Tsui, and villages) 268 floors were cleansed and limewashed and 206 obstructions removed. The obstructions were removed owing to their depriving the floors of light and air. The evil of overcrowding in the district had been by these removals to a considerable extent mitigated. Probably just as many coolies would sleep in the houses, but much more air had been provided for them. From April 3rd to July 3rd the number of deaths from plague in No. 11 district was 53. It was considered advisable to disinfect every house in Hunghom; so on July 8th a mixture of manganese di-oxide, salt, and sulphuric acid was placed on every floor. Only 15 cases had occurred since, and there was no doubt from this and past experience that where plague was widely spread over a district such a complete disinfection was of considerable value in stopping epidemics. With the exception of a few houses so constructed that they get dirty very quickly, the whole of Hunghom was very clean. Of 64 deaths from plague in No. 12 district from March 2nd to July 3rd only 18 cases could be traced to houses. The remaining cases had been found in the harbour in boats, on the rocks, on the foreshore, and in other places. Of 50 bodies found since July 3rd only 18 could be traced to houses. The houses in the district were found to be in excellent condition. In conclusion Mr. Browne said the work was carried out by Inspectors Macdonald and McVicar, each of whom was in charge of a cleansing party in his own district. Both Inspector Macdonald and Inspector McVicar appeared to have an intimate knowledge of the houses under their charge, and afforded me great assistance. In appendix 3 was a return showing that in No. 11 district 68 cases of plague were removed from March 2nd to August 12th and that in No. 12 district during the same period 114 cases were removed. Mr. Browne continues:—"The experience gained in the epidemics of 1894, 1898, and 1899 has shown me that much more drastic measures than those that have hitherto been adopted for the supervision of plague in Hongkong will have to be adopted in order to free the Colony from the recurrence of the disease. I have therefore made some suggestions in appendix 4, which it is hoped may prove of assistance to the Board in its deliberations as to the future prevention of plague." In Appendix 4 Mr. Browne makes certain suggestions as to limewashing, the appointment of suitable persons to go on a house-to-house visitation through each Inspector's district, the enforcement of the by-laws, and a special disinfecting party for the city of Victoria and another for Kowloon.

The President proposed that the report be forwarded to the Captain Superintendent of Police to see what could be done in reference to removing the squatters mentioned in the report.

Dr. Lowson seconded.

The Vice-President moved that the Board record its warm thanks to Mr. Browne, the Government Analyst, for the very valuable work he had done during the plague epidemic, and for the report with which he had been good enough to furnish the Board.

Mr. Osborne seconded, and the motion was carried.

THE DRY EARTH SYSTEM.

The Hon. E. D. ORMSBY had given notice of his intention to propose "That in future the dry earth system be introduced into all the Government latrines, and also, if possible in the privately owned latrines open for public use." In the absence of Mr. Ormsby at a committee meeting in connection with the Legislative Council, the motion was postponed until the next meeting.

THE INSANITARY PROPERTIES BILL.

At a meeting of the Sanitary Board on August 17th a resolution was passed to the effect that the Government should be asked to inform the Board as to the present state of the Insanitary Properties Bill. Papers on the subject were submitted, including the following:—

From the Colonial Secretary to His Excellency the Governor: "I recommend that a meeting of the Executive Council be fixed for an early date in order to consider this Bill before bringing it again into Legislative Council." 21/8/99.

From His Excellency to the Colonial Secretary: "Monday 28th will do. Answer the Board that the Bill is being carefully considered." 22/8.

AN OBSERVATION STATION AT LAI CHI KOK.

The SECRETARY reported the appointment of an observation station at Lai Chi Kok in connection with the Sanitary Regulations recently made by the Board.

The Vice-President proposed that the matter be left to Dr. Clark. It was going to be a big expense.

The President seconded.

Dr. Lowson: "It will be a big expense, and where the value will come in I don't know."

The Vice-President: "I neither."

The motion was carried.

AN APPLICATION FROM THE ROYAL ARTILLERY OFFICERS MESS.

An application was submitted for permission to erect two urinals in a building to be rented as the Royal Artillery Mess.

On the motion of the Vice-President, seconded by Dr. Lowson, the application was refused.

RINDERPEST.

A report of rinderpest and an unwholesome dairy at Kowloon was submitted.

Dr. Lowson asked the Vice-President if there was any known outbreak of any disease over in the New Territory.

The Vice-President: "Yes, there has been a very heavy loss of cattle in the Ah Chuen district."

Dr. Lowson: "Have you any figures? I understand there have been about 300 deaths."

The Vice-President: "The sergeant said 200 cattle have died within the last few weeks."

Dr. Lowson: "It is a very serious matter having rinderpest on the other side."

The Vice-President said he did not know that it was rinderpest.

Dr. Lowson, continuing, said there was rinderpest in Kowloon City and Deep Bay way. The previous day one of the cattle at the Depot developed undoubted symptoms of rinderpest, and that morning with the permission of the President and anticipating the sanction of the Board the animal was shot. This was the second case there within three days. What he was very much afraid of was of rinderpest getting over to this side again, and he should extremely like the Sanitary Board with a few men over there to supervise what was going on in the animal way, and if necessary to go about and instruct the people what they have got to do to try and prevent infection.

Mr. Osborne proposed that the matter be considered on the return of Mr. Ladds.

The President seconded.

The Vice-President said it was absolutely impossible to supervise the cattle in the New Territory. There were not many and they were scattered all over the place, and it would take a deal of walking to visit all the homesteads where there were cattle. What they really wanted were inspection lairs to detect the cattle coming in. At Yaumati the cattle coming in were inspected at six o'clock in the morning before the Inspector went out for his day's work.

Dr. Lowson: "In that case you would want inspection lairs down there at once."

The Vice-President, continuing, said he thought the Board's men might do something. If they thought one man was not enough they could appoint two.

Ultimately it was decided to wait until the arrival of Mr. Ladds, before taking any further steps, and Mr. Osborne's motion was carried.

THE PLAGUE.

A report as to the progress of bubonic plague at Bombay City for the period 18th July to 31st July showed 149 cases and 134 deaths.

A report as to the progress of bubonic plague at Tainan, Formosa, showed that from July 19th to Aug. 1st two cases were reported, and that the deaths numbered 11 and the recoveries nine. From Jan. 7th to Aug. 1st the cases numbered 2,227 and the deaths 1,713 and the recoveries 494.

The mortality statistics from Macao showed 60 deaths for the week ended August 6th, 57 deaths for the week ended August 13th, and 51 (including three from plague) for the week ended August 20th.

The SECRETARY, answering the President, said no information had been received from the Government with reference to Newchwang.

HONGKONG MORTALITY RETURNS.

The mortality statistics for the colony of Hongkong for the week ended August 12th showed a death-rate of 21.4, against 20.1 for the previous week and 17.1 for the corresponding week last year. The rate for the succeeding week was 22.0, against 18.3 for the corresponding week last year.

LIMEWASHING.

Mr. OSBORNE said the prosecutions did not seem to have much effect on the limewashing. This was the end of August and the eastern district should have been cleansed by now yet 505 tenements had not been cleansed. He moved that the offenders be prosecuted.

Dr. Lowson seconded and the motion was carried.

This was all the business.

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE FOR CHINESE.

PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS.

A meeting of the General Council of the College of Medicine for Chinese, together with the students, was held in the Legislative Council Chamber at noon Thursday for the purpose of presenting diplomas to Mr. Kwong Ngai Leung and Mr. To Ying Fan, who have completed the curriculum of study and passed all the professional examinations of the College. The Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, C.M.G., Rector of the College, presided.

A letter was read from Viscount Suidale to the effect that H.E. the Governor would not be able to be present on account of his being absent from the colony for a few days.

Dr. J. C. THOMSON, honorary secretary to the College, in presenting the successful students to the Rector said Mr. Kwong Ngai Leung, in addition to his receiving his ordinary training in connection with the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals, had done some substantial service to the Government. During last year he for a time during the plague acted as dispenser in the Kennedytown Hospital, and was resident surgeon in the Tung Wa mat-shed hospital during the whole time of its existence. This year he had been engaged in plague search work in the western district and also for a time was doing similar work in the Island of Cheung Chau. Mr. To Ying Fan had acted as house surgeon of the Nethersole Hospital and on the completion of his course his appointment to the position was confirmed. The diploma was as follows:—

"College of Medicine for Chinese, Hongkong. We, the Dean, Lecturers, and Examiners of

the College of Medicine for Chinese, Hongkong, hereby declare that—, having attended courses of lectures during a period of five years in the various departments of professional study required by the College, has been examined and has duly satisfied the Examiners in each of those subjects; that he is qualified to practice medicine, surgery, and midwifery; and that by the Authority of the Court of the College he is hereby granted the title of Licentiate in Medicine and Surgery of the College of Medicine for Chinese, Hongkong (L.M.S.H.). In witness whereof we have hereto set our signatures on this— day of— in the year Eighteen hundred and nine-nine, being the year of the Chinese Cycle —."

The certificate was signed by Dr. Clark as Dean of the College; by Dr. P. Kreig, Mr. W. J. Titcher, Dr. Thomson, Dr. Ho Kai, Dr. Rennie, Dr. Harston, Dr. Jordan, Dr. Clark as lecturers; and Colonel Evatt, Mr. Ford Mr. Browne, Mr. Neidhardt, Dr. Clark, Dr. Hartigan, Captain Bewley, Dr. Ho Kai, Staff Surgeon Hume and Dr. Jordan as examiners; and by the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart (Rector) and Dr. Thomson (Secretary) for the Court.

The Rector, in handing the diplomas to the successful students, said—Mr. Kwong Ngai Leung and Mr. Lo Ying Fan, as Rector of the College of Medicine for Chinese I have much pleasure in performing the pleasing duty which has devolved upon me of handing to you your diplomas. I congratulate you both on having so successfully passed your examinations, and I wish you both every success in the important profession which you have selected. (Applause.)

The proceedings then terminated.

AFFAIRS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Manila, 22nd August.

THE STORY OF THE MAYOR OF BALINAG.

THE TROUBLE OF A CIVIL GOVERNMENT AND HOW THE WORTHY LEADER FELL.

When General Lawton made his famous thirty mile sweep through the north country to San Isidro, overcoming all sorts of difficulties, dragging his bull carts by hand, and turning his soldiers into road makers who built along a track that a highly coloured Spanish map represented as a level boulevard, it was thought that the insurgents had been sufficiently punished in the twenty-eight battles and skirmishes to warrant the establishment of civil government. The McKinley commission was anxious for an experiment with the new scheme, the President had authorized it, and accordingly General Lawton cast his eyes about and decided to endow the prosperous well situated town of Balinag with the blessings of a peace government. The ever present amigo inhabitants seemed to have no objections and were apparently pleased with the novelty in store for them. So a diminutive political convention was held and in due course a Mayor was selected who surrounded himself with trusty and efficient officers. There was a lively celebration in consequence of the event, a band was made up of the instruments left by the insurgents in their hasty departure, and good old wine flowed in unlimited quantities. With the infant town administration fairly launched, the General marched northward to San Isidro and dreamed of crossing the country and striking Tarlac from the north, a step that all agree would have been most successful and effective. However, General Otis sat down on the plan and Lawton was returned to Manila, somewhat disappointed.

Balinag was garrisoned and on account of its healthy dry location it was decided to retain it as a permanent base. The government progressed favourably under the native direction, the people seemed contented, and the Mayor fast became popular with the American officers, while correspondents made pilgrimages from Manila, took his pictures, and wrote stories of his good work in the happy community. This was in the month of May, and when June was closing Balinag was looked upon as the bright show-off boy in the rapidly growing class of civil governments, to be paraded before observers and other districts that were without the joys of self-direction and taxation.

In July things took a change and the Mayor lost favour with some of his friends. Here and there a few natives complained of his taxes, he was often absent for many hours at a stretch, and finally the Americans grew a little suspicious and watch was kept on their protégé. In the early part of August Balinag was the object of several well directed attacks and the enemy had a way of appearing and melting away again at most opportune times for their own success. Finally developments led to the belief that the worthy Mayor was in communication with the insurgents and the more excited ones claimed that he was supplying the enemy with information. A closer watch was set with the result that one night he was discovered coming back from the vicinity of the rebel lines. In the meantime investigation showed that large sums had been collected from the people of the town, but apparently there were no returns made for them in the town accounts.

It was time to call a halt, and after carefully arranging against any chance of escape the Mayor was confronted with the charges against him. These he stoutly denied and he played the part of injured dignity while the men searched his quarters and property. Lists of subscriptions were found neatly made out with the names and sums set opposite, and inquiry among the subscribers has led to the discovery that the money had been extorted for the insurgent cause and regularly passed on to Aguinaldo's agents right under the noses of the Americans, but so deftly was it done that considerable time elapsed before it was detected.

It is also believed that there is sufficient evidence to prove that the Mayor is a Colonel in the insurgent army.

There is now no doubt whatever that the man used his position to keep his people well informed of the best moments for the frequent skirmishes and attacks that have taken place, and he has carried on a systematic deception that played well into the hands of his countrymen in many ways.

In a few days the cunning official is to be tried by court martial, and if the 3rd Infantry garrisoning Balinag has its way, some fine morning just at sunrise the Mayor will join a host of good amigos.

THE LATE MR. GRANVILLE SHARP ON THE ATLANTIC.

HE DESCRIBES THE MAGNIFICENT ICE
SCENERY.

By the last mail we received a letter from Mr. Granville Sharp, to which a melancholy interest attaches in view of the telegraphic news received the other day announcing the writer's death shortly after his arrival in England. The letter is dated "Dominion Line, steamer *Cambroman*, 25th July, 1899, one day short of Liverpool" and is as follows:—

It is possible that some of your readers, oppressed with Hongkong August heat, may be refreshed by remembering that there are cool breezes preparing for them by and bye; and that they may be interested in a brief account of our exceptional experience, last week, in the North Atlantic.

I had, according to my custom, secured a ticket to London via New York, but, finding that the boats were full, and all available space booked forward in advance, I returned to Montreal and took passage per Dominion Liner *Cambroman*, newly fitted for passengers, of whom we have a goodly company.

It is no uncommon circumstance to meet with ice, in this latitude, in July; the pieces having been brought by winds and currents from the North. But such a spectacle as was presented to us from the 18th to 20th had not been seen by Captain Moore, the officers, crew, or any one on board. For two hundred miles we were steaming through ice blocks. By ceaseless vigilance and watchful care the vessel was directed in the narrowest channels, whilst daylight lasted and the air was clear, when; however, the fog fell, movement became absolutely impossible. The icebergs were indifferent to the fog horn's shrillest notes, and, for about twenty-four hours, we lay nearly motionless. On the 19th the bright sun dispersed the mists, and the prospect was simply magnificent and quite beyond my power of adequate description. The ice in all imaginable forms lay close

around us, and as far distant as the horizon. The colours formed by the sun's rays upon the ice, and on the blue waters, as shown upon the submerged portions, were most beautiful. The endless variety of shapes and forms rivetted our attention. The frozen masses were of all sizes, from the little swan-like pieces floating by in their stately progress, to the huge bergs two hundred feet high, and as large as St. Paul's Cathedral above the water and three times as large below: of such there was a very considerable number. We were thankful that the air was still, as, had there been any wind, the steamer would probably have been crushed.

On the morning of the 20th the effect of the prospect, near and afar, around the ship, was positively overwhelming. It was extremely difficult to realize the possibility of the changed conditions into which a few hours' voyage had brought us.

After a time we were able again to steam ahead, leaving the icebergs to their solitude, and feeling ourselves very fortunate in having been permitted to witness a sight far beyond anything which we had conceived, and which we could never possibly forget.

With kind regards, and hoping that our Hongkong friends are getting well through the summer, believe me, yours truly.

GRANVILLE SHARP.

"AS YOU LIKE IT" AT THE THEATRE ROYAL.

The heavy downfall of rain which visited the colony on Tuesday prevented the open-air performance of "As you like it" which it had been arranged should be given on the Volunteer Parade Ground in the evening by Miss Janet Waldorf and her company, assisted by members of the Hongkong Amateur Dramatic Society, and it accordingly took place in the Theatre Royal. There was a large house.

The performance of this most charming of Shakespeare's compositions was such as reflected the highest credit upon all concerned. It was a treat the like of which we seldom have in Hongkong. Not only were Miss Waldorf and her company in the best of trim but the amateurs also shone, several of them indeed, acquitting themselves in a manner which would not have disgraced artistes of repute. Particularly was this the case with Mr. J. F. Noble and Mr. H. W. Looker. The former, who impersonated Touchstone, the reigning Duke's clown, was frequently applauded, and Mr. Looker, who made a great hit as the melancholy Jacques, was similarly rewarded. Mr. H. A. Lammert, as Corin the shepherd, is also worthy of special mention. By the way, there were three Lammerts in the cast—Mr. C. H. Lammert (the Reigning Duke), Mr. G. P. Lammert (Charles the wrestler), and Mr. H. A. Lammert. Mr. G. P. Lammert was in every way suited to the part he took. His wrestling bout with Orlando (Mr. Norval McGregor) was very well done. Mr. McGregor made an excellent Orlando. Miss Waldorf made an ideal Rosalind, and Miss Virginia Cranna as Celia and Miss Ada Dow Carrier as Audrey were no less successful. During the performance Mr. G. H. Ardron sang "Blow, blow thou wintry wind," and Messrs. C. H. Lammert, G. H. Ardron, G. P. Lammert, and W. E. Schmidt "What shall he have who killed the deer," the latter piece being encored. The whole was given under the direction of Miss Ada Dow Carrier and Mr. J. H. Love, whom we warmly congratulate on the success achieved.

The following is the full cast of characters: Banished Duke, Mr. F. P. Harrold; Reigning Duke, Mr. C. H. Lammert; Jacques and Amiens (attending on the Banished Duke), Messrs. H. W. Looker and G. H. Ardron; Oliver and Jacques (sons of Sir Roland de Bois), Messrs. G. Heb. Sexton and P. A. Cox; Le Beau (court attendant), Mr. E. D. Anderson; Charles (Wrestler to Reigning Duke), Mr. G. P. Lammert; Adam (servant to Oliver), Mr. E. C. Lane; Touchstone, (clown), Mr. J. F. Noble; Corin and Silvius (shepherds), Messrs. H. A. Lammert and H. E. Green; William (country clown), Mr. C. H. Sherrington; Orlando, Mr. Norval McGregor; Celia, Miss Virginia Cranna; Phoebe, Miss Edith Pilston; Audrey, Ada Dow Carrier.

Rosalind, Miss Janet Waldorf.

REPORTED REINSTATEMENT OF LI HUNG-CHANG.

A report is in circulation that Li Hung-chang has been reinstated as Viceroy of Chihli.

EXECUTION OF THE "TAIPING" PIRATES.

A Canton correspondent writes:—Seven men said to have been concerned in the piracy committed on the Portuguese steamer *Taiping* on the West River, having been tried for their offence and convicted upon their own confession, were on the 25th August taken from the Punyu and Namhoi gaols, in which they had been confined, carried to the execution ground, and decapitated.

SUPPRESSION OF PIRACY ON THE WEST RIVER.

THE "TWEED" AND A TORPEDO BOAT
TO LEFT ON TUESDAY.

In consequence of the many cases of piracy which have occurred on the West River of late and the inability of the Chinese Government to put a stop to them the gunboat *Tweed* and torpedo-boat No. 36 left for Canton on Tuesday for the purpose of patrolling the river.

IN TIME OF SICKNESS.

I.

Almighty God to whose high throne
Comes Sorrow's cry, and Suffering's moan,
Forget not those struck down to die
By fell disease our homes hard by.
Forget not those whom day by day
The plague's swift poison sweeps away.

II.

Remember, Lord, the fathers dead—
The mothers from their loved ones torn
Hard toilers for their scanty bread,
The orphaned children left to mourn.
Can those sweet lives so worthless be,
And are they worthless, Lord, to thee?

III.

Here in our city's midst each day,
Where wealth its golden torrent pours,
The plague holds still its cruel way,
Our brothers perish at our doors.
Eternal God who reign'st on high,
Hast thou no pity for their cry,
Their sufferings, and their misery?
Are they uncared for thus to die?

IV.

Crass ignorance holds their lives as nought,
Hard selfish greed feeds on their blood,
Thus is thy people's ruin wrought,
Thus strangled all our hopes for good.
Oh God of Pity, Love, and Power,
Thy mercy on the sufferers shower,
And shield them in their trying hour.

V.

Here where loved England's standards fly,
Where men boast loud of Britain's power,
Beneath that flag her people die,
Crushed by disease from hour to hour.
Could pagan states that know not Thee,
Doom life to harsher destiny?
More dire neglect where could we see
Than in this isle of apathy?
Loved England, how can such things be
In any land controlled by Thee?

VI.

Oh Lord our God who gav'st thy Son
To die and set the Nations free
Was this the Eternal Victory won
By Christ for man on Calvary,
That blighted, ruined, crushed, and rent
Sweet human lives should thus be spent
All in one ruthless ruin blent?
Is this what Thy great ransom meant?

VII.

Where else on earth is human life
More marred and maimed and crushed than here?
In fetid lane and poisoned slum
We slay the lives Lord Christ held dear.
Oh God, we need thy presence near.
Oh Saviour, wilt thou not appear,
Midst these foul dens where dark and drear
The dense-packed teeming thousands dwell
In misery which no words can tell
A noisome, foul, plague-stricken hall,
Oh God, who orderest all things well,
Did'st thou decree this living hell?

VIII.

Doest Thou guide all, and Doest Thou reign,
Doest Thou indeed control our ways?
Why then this anguish, grief, and pain
This torment, sorrow, stress, and strain?
Why this dread pestilence which slays
Our brothers in the sultry days?
These things confound us and amaze.

Lord God if such sad things can be
Can we in this thy Mercy see?
Our anxious hearts will doubt of thee,
Why stayest not such misery.

IX.

While this rich mart is choked with wealth,
The merchants hoards brim o'er with gold,
The lowly toiler cries for health,
And air and space, which we withhold.
Could a more cruel tale be told?
A thousand of them, stiff and cold,
The weak, the strong, the young, the old,
Find shelter from Life's storm and rest
In green Mount Davis' sheltering breast.
Is this, indeed, thy high behest,
Who orderest all things for the best?
Why strain our faith with such a test?

DUBITANS.

WATER POLO.

Water Polo has attained great popularity in the colony, due no doubt to the efforts of the Hongkong Water Polo Association formed last year and the provision of the challenge shield, subscribed for by the community immediately after. This year there has been a good entry of teams for the Shield Competition principally from the military, but the soldiers are only beginners at the game and as yet stand no chance against our local players.

The Victoria Recreation Club entered two teams, A. and B., respectively captained by the brothers A.A. and A.E. Alves.

These two teams met on Wednesday in the semi-final round and as they are undoubtedly the two best teams in the competition there was naturally a great amount of interest taken in the encounter. Notwithstanding the unfavourable weather, a good number of spectators assembled and were rewarded by witnessing an excellent contest.

At the start the teams were:—

A
Machado, Loureiro, C. Hance, A. A. Alves (Captain), Armstrong, F. Jorge, and Henderson.

B
Rosa Pereira, J. Hance, F. Lammert, Stopani, Herbst, A. E. Alves (Captain), and J. Grant Smith.

Mr. T. Meek acted as Referee. A team wore white caps and B red.

In the race for the ball at the opening Jorge of the A's secured, but no particular advantage accrued. The play was very fast and keen, each man in either team closely watching his opponent. J. Hance in B team was very prominent, continually checkmating Armstrong, and the brothers Alves provided an excellent entertainment for the spectators by the clever way in which they nullified each other's efforts. Although all round the A's were a trifle the stronger B team was the first to have the ball through. A. E. Alves made the shot, but the point was disallowed on account of a foul. After this the A's showed to greater advantage and Armstrong, securing from a throw out by Pereira, put the ball just over. Later Henderson put in three excellent shots in quick succession, but Pereira just as excellently saved them. The A's maintained the upper hand to half time, but neither side managed to score.

On the restart it was noticed that Lammert, whose wind had apparently given out, had relieved Pereira in goal, the latter taking his place at back. The severe pace of the first half had told on the players and the play lagged a little; still it was always exciting. After a little A livened up again and when at close quarters A. A. Alves took a pass from Armstrong and notched one for his side. B team used every effort to get on level terms, especially their captain, but was unsuccessful. Stopani made a couple of excellent tries, but had hard lines. The A's also endeavoured to increase their score, but though A. A. Alves and Henderson made good attempts they were unsuccessful, and the game ended in their favour by one goal to nil.

Of the players, the Alves brothers were the pick, the elder being just a trifle better than the younger. Jorge and C. Hance were very effective in A team, whilst Julian Hance and Stopani put in good service for B, the excellent play of the former accounting for Armstrong not being so much in evidence as man.

KOWLOON VERSUS ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS

"A" TEAM.

The remaining semi-final of the Water Polo competition was decided on Thursday the above teams being the contestants. This is the first season the soldiers have played the game, but they have been very apt pupils, and if they continue to improve at their present rate will be very formidable antagonists next year.

The teams were as follows:—

Kowloon (White caps)—A. L. Sutton, R. Lapsley, J. Logan, J. Millar, R. Witchell, J. A. Muller, and A. Humphreys (captain).

Fusiliers (Red caps)—Monk, Hogg, Gregory, Almond, Collins, Greenwood, and Doodson.

Hogg of the Fusiliers secured the ball at the start and for some time there was very even play at midway. Lapsley of Kowloon, however, after a little while neglected to cover his man, to whom the soldiers at first opportunity passed, with the result that a goal was immediately scored.

From the throw in Hogg again secured for the soldiers and they attacked. Lapsley dispossessed them and shot, with no effect. But later he again secured and passed to Humphreys, who got down cleverly and equalized.

At the restart Kowloon secured and at once attacked, but as Miller was tackled when shooting his shot was weak. Müller of Kowloon after showing clever play fumbled with the ball and was robbed in a bad position. The Fusiliers took full advantage and put the ball through again. They maintained their advantage to half time, when the score stood:—

R. W. F.—2 goals.

Kowloon—1 goal.

After the interval the game assumed a different aspect, as Kowloon with the tide in their favour at once assumed the upper hand. The soldiers nevertheless contested gamely, but were gradually mastered. Humphreys put on one and Millar two goals for Kowloon, who thus secured the verdict by 4 goals to 2.

Lapsley of Kowloon, though at times lacking judgment, was the best man in the game and a tower of strength to his side. Humphreys and Müller showed clever play and Millar also did some good work. Of the soldiers, Hogg, centre forward, played excellently and almost invariably secured the ball for his side in the swims. All the team, however, did remarkably well, considering their newness at the game, and are to be congratulated on their display.

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

Nineteen members took part in the Pearson Cup and Spoon competition held last Saturday. Mr. Marshall won the cup for the first time with a net score of 95. Following are the best ten scores:—

	200	500	600	H'cap	Total
Mr. W. Marshall*	32	33	30	—	95
Mr. W. Toller*	29	33	32	4	98
Mr. W. Watson*	34	34	26	—	94
Sapper Clarke, R.E.*	32	33	28	—	93
Mr. T. H. Skelton	31	32	29	—	92
Ar. Sergt. Blair	30	29	29	—	88
Mr. W. Stackwood	28	28	26	6	88
Q. M. S. West, R.E.	31	28	28	—	87
Corpl. Hills, R.E.	32	30	25	—	87
Mr. F. Pidgeon	28	30	23	6	87

* Winners of Spoons.

HONGKONG ELECTRIC COMPANY, LIMITED.

On Saturday at noon an extraordinary general meeting in connection with the Hongkong Electric Company, Limited, was held at the offices of the company, Queen's Building, under the presidency of Mr. H. L. Dalrymple. There were also present the Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., Messrs. A. G. Wood, C. W. Dickson (directors), W. H. Wickham (manager), G. T. Veitch, J. Macgregor Forbes, W. S. Bamsey, Newman Mumford, E. C. Emmett, R. R. Roberts, J. R. Michael, Baptista, and Lun Shiu Lim.

Mr. WICKHAM read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, we have invited your attendance here to-day to ask your adoption of the resolution which has been read by our manager and which has been published in the local papers for over two weeks. Your directors have carefully considered the best means of meeting future expenditure, necessary in the extension of our working area and for the development of our company's business in the colony, and the proposed resolution is the outcome of their deliberations. I trust you will view the proposal in a favourable light and sanction the increase of capital on the lines set forth. It is intended for the present only to call up \$3 per share, and that at an early date, and the balance by instalments, as required, from time to time. Such further calls are not likely to be made for some time to come, but whilst asking for an increase of capital, in view of the very probable accession to the demand for incandescent lighting in the near future, your directors have thought it prudent to seek powers to straightway double the original capital rather than to increase it by smaller sums, as required for the working of the company. The new capital will be on exactly the same basis as the old capital, and will rank for dividend according to the amount from time to time paid up on such shares. I do not think I need take up more of your time to-day, but before putting the resolution to this meeting I shall be pleased to furnish any information shareholders may require connected with the object for which you have been called together.

No questions being forthcoming the CHAIRMAN proposed the following resolution:—

1.—That the capital of the company be increased to the sum of \$600,000 by the issue of 30,000 new shares of \$10 each, which shall be considered part of the original capital and be subject to the provisions in the Articles of Association contained with reference to calls transfer transmission lien surrender voting power and otherwise and that the directors be authorised to issue such new shares at par.

2.—That the said new shares be offered to the persons who on the 16th day of September, 1899, shall be registered members of the existing shares in the proportion of a new share for each existing share held by them.

Mr. G. T. VEITCH seconded and the motion was carried.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, that is all we have to say to-day. We shall require a meeting about the middle of next month to confirm the proceedings of to-day. I thank you for your attendance. Due notice will be given of the next meeting.

GREAT EASTERN AND CALEDONIAN GOLD MINING CO., LIMITED.

The General Agents of the Great Eastern and Caledonian Gold Mining Co., Limited, Messrs. Lutgens, Einstmann and Co., have received the following report from the mines written by Mr. S. Cash:—

Since my last report on the 5th July, 1899, the following work has been done at the mines:—

BANK OF ENGLAND MINE.

Back Stopes.—No. 1. Stope to date is 43 feet north along the reef, No. 2, 35 feet, No. 3 is 19 feet, and No. 4, 8 feet. Approximate height of stoping above main level 25 feet. The reef is from 15 to 18 inches wide and prospects about one ounce per ton. I estimate the quantity of stone at grass 80 tons. The main drive north has been extended 8 feet, making total distance from main shaft to face 75 feet. The reef in the face is about one foot wide and carries a very well defined foot-wall, and prospects 6 dwts. per ton. The formation has improved so much in the last 5 feet that there is every prospect of something payable being out within the next ten feet.

RISE AND SHINE MINE.

No 1 underhand stope and drive has been extended north of main shaft 46 feet on the reef by a depth of 9 feet. No 2 stope is 21 feet north on the reef by a depth of 15 feet. The reef is still about 15 inches wide and I expect it to yield 25 dwts. per ton. I estimate the quantity of stone at grass to be 40 tons.

ZULU MINE.

The main shaft has been sunk a further depth of 4 feet. In order to underhand stope profitably it is necessary to keep the shaft going down with the stopes. No 1 stope has been carried south of main shaft on the reef 25 feet by a depth of 5 feet. No 2 stope 8 feet by a depth of 8 feet.

No. 1 stope north of main shaft is 1 foot long by 4 feet deep. The reef is about 10 inches wide and should not yield less than 25 dwts. per ton. I estimate the quantity of stone to be 30 tons.

CALEDONIAN MINE.

The poppet legs are erected over the new main vertical shaft, but it will take about another fortnight to put on the decking, etc., and complete them. The main drive north at the bottom of the old main underlie shaft has been extended 5 feet. The reef in the face is 3 feet wide and prospects about 6 dwts. per ton. So far we have only done repairs and prospected the old workings. I hope to be able to report more fully on this mine in a few weeks' time.

The mines are now in fairly good working order. Of course a lot of preparatory work had to be done at all the mines so as to try and break the stone as cheaply as possible.

TANJONG PAGAR DOCK CO.

The Directors in their report for the half year ending 30th June, 1899. The reconstruction of the company has been carried out in conformity with the special resolutions of the shareholders, and the present company which was incorporated on 1st August, 1899, has taken the name and business of the Tanjong Pagar Dock Company, the shareholders in the present company receiving two shares for each share held in the old company. The reconstruction has caused no interference with the ordinary business of the company. The net profit for the half year is \$504,906. From this amount the directors recommend that \$200,000 be carried to reserve; that an interim dividend of \$6 per share be paid, on the new shares in the company (being equivalent to \$12 per share on the old shares), and that the balance of \$124,906 be carried forward. The total amount of the debenture issue is \$605,500. The twelfth issue of debentures amounting to \$79,500 is due for repayment on 1st September, 1899, and it is not proposed to replace this amount by a new issue. The proposals made by the Company for the construction of the naval dock have not been accepted by the Admiralty. The directors being of opinion that the existing wharf accommodation is insufficient for the growing trade of the port, have under consideration extension works of an important character, involving a considerable expenditure of money, particulars of which will, in due course, be submitted to the shareholders.

CHANG CHIH-TUNG.

According to a Wuchang letter Viceroy Chang Chih-tung may be termed the most popular Viceroy Hupeh province has had for over a century. Among other public works which the people of Hupeh owe to him is his latest one of raising and repairing ten miles of dykes commencing from Hanyang to the foot of the Tsing-shan hills. Periodically these have burst open at important points, either from the freshets from the hills or the overflowing of the great river and other streams, spreading devastation and rain over several hundred square miles. Preceding Viceroys and Governors have only made temporary repairs, leaving the unlucky people occupying the low-lying lands, in a state of insecurity. It has been left to Viceroy Chang to earn the gratitude of his people by resolutely tackling the question and spending a considerable portion of the revenues as well as perquisites which properly should have gone to his own pocket upon making substantial and permanent repairs on the dykes, and making improvements on them with rare engineering skill. The immediate result is seen this year in the beautiful crops throughout the country depending upon the dykes for protection, while the gratitude of the people, hitherto impoverished by the floods, and too poor to give any considerable testimony of their gratefulness, may be seen in the erection of tablets in each household containing the name of the Viceroy before which these poor people daily kneel and burn incense.—N. C. Daily News.

A OTHER PEKING CONSPIRACY.

Despatches received from Peking state that the Ministers of the Imperial Household Department have received what is believed trustworthy intelligence of the existence of a formidable conspiracy involving the deposition of the Empress Dowager, and the making away with her principal supporters, such as Jung Lu, Prince Ching, Kang Yi, etc. The officials are keeping very secret over the matter, quietly making their investigations, but it is believed that the conspirators are mostly, if not all, Bannermen, i.e., Manchus, Mongols, and descendants of Chinese who joined the Manchus when invading China in the 17th century, generally termed *Hanchun*. If these conjectures prove true, there are hidden dangers not only for the Empress Dowager but for H.I.M. Kuang Hsu also. His Majesty's only real friends being Chinese and, perhaps, some dozen or twenty young Manchus who joined the Reform Club when first started in Peking in 1895. The Empress Dowager having been warned, however, is taking the bull by the horns with her customary energy, and defensive measures are being secretly made both for the protection of her Palace at Eho Park, and for the safety of her own person. Among the ostensible preparations the Empress Dowager is now surrounded wherever she goes by a company of 50 of her most devoted eunuchs armed with Mauser repeating rifles, bayonets, and bandoliers crammed with cartridges, and of 30 of the best swordsmen that can be picked out of the eunuchs trained in that line.—N. C. Daily News.

THE CHINESE COURT ADVISED TO COME SOUTH.

We learn from native services that all the high officials at Peking have memorialized the Empress Dowager to leave Peking and take the Emperor with her to some new capital in the South, the name of which is not given. The reason pleaded is that the southern provinces are richer and more suited than Chih-li for the capital! But the real reason of course is that the traitors who have sold their country foresee their new masters are soon likely to come to claim possession of Peking. In other words they can already hear the approaching tramp of the Cossacks.—China Gazette.

PORT ARTHUR FROM A PRO-RUSSIAN POINT OF VIEW.

A correspondent of the *Echo de Chine* gives a very glowing account of the progress made at Port Arthur, which now, according to this writer, possesses commodious barracks for the troops, quays, gardens, private residences, buildings of all descriptions, well furnished shops, hotels, a theatre, and select casinos where good music can be heard. Having referred to statements made in the English press about the oppressive treatment of the natives at Port Arthur and Talienwan the writer goes on to say:—These injustices seem to please the Chinese, for they flock to the two towns in increasing numbers every day. They arrive, in fact, by thousands every week from Shantung and elsewhere and benevolently offer us their services and submit to our alleged exactions. No one can say the same of the immigration at Weihaiwei, notwithstanding the well known equity of Messieurs les Anglais. It is said, on the contrary, that the recruitment of their Chinese battalion is going on very slowly, and, it is added, deserters are numerous. Peasants (slanderers no doubt) say that a little distance from Weihaiwei the English engineers have treated the population so well that the latter have revolted, have refused to supply them with provisions, and that it has been necessary to operate *manu militari*. . . . If iniquity is unknown at Weihaiwei we regret to say that truth also is absent from certain editorial offices."

During the blow at Yokohama on the 15th August, we learn from the *Japan Herald*, the steamer *Carnarhenshire* went aground on the spit inside the breakwater owing to the breaking of the catch in her mooring chain, under the strain, which allowed the chain to run out to its extreme length. She was discharging Hongkong cargo and was expected to get off at any time.

THE PROPERTY MARKET AT SHANGHAI.

Some rather important sales of property at Shanghai have to be recorded as having taken place within the past few days. The property occupied by the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha at the Chuen Road, belonging to the late Mr. R. J. Thorburn (the last Secretary of the Municipal Council) his brother, Mr. J. D. Thorburn, and Mr. R. A. Jamieson, consisting of 5 acres 2 roods 3 li 8 ha with the buildings thereon, has been sold to Mr. Komura, of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, for Tls. 100,000. Another large property between the Soochow Creek, the Lloyd and Chekiang Roads, purchased by a Japanese Company in 1895 as the site for a Cotton Mill, was sold a day or two ago to Chinese for Tls. 215,000. It consists of more 200,000 sq. ft. *Gazette*.

RUSSIA, JAPAN AND CHINA.

According to a Japanese press despatch the Foreign Office in Tokyo, on reading the Reuter's dispatch that the Russian Minister at Peking had made a strong protest against an alliance between Japan and China, immediately directed Mr. Yano, the Japanese Minister to China, to investigate the matter, and report whether the London dispatch was true or not. A reply has been received from Mr. Yano definitely stating that the news published by Reuter was a mere canard.

THE UNITED STATES AND THE SULU ARCHIPELAGO.

The sovereignty of the United States is acknowledged throughout the whole Jolo or Sulu archipelago and all the Moros now claim the American flag as their own. Brigadier General John C. Bates, who went to Jolo as the representative of the United States, and Governor of the Philippines has concluded his negotiations in a most satisfactory manner with the haughty Sultan and all his adherents have sworn to recognize the United States as the supreme authority and to respect and obey the American Government.

The Moros were very suspicious and rather unfriendly at first, but General Bates was able to make upon their minds a very good impression. He explained matters to them very roughly and treated the Moros with utmost frankness. The inhabitants of the Jolo archipelago are all zealous Mohammedans and their greatest concern was for their religion. When they found that the United States would not interfere in their religious affairs and would guarantee to them the right to worship as they became more tractable and it was not long before friendly relations were established. Traveling by turns on the cruiser *Charleston* and on the gunboat *Manila* and *Castini*, General Bates visited the principal islands of the group, holding conferences with many of the chiefs. Except that he is the head of the Moslem faith in the Philippine Island, the Sultan of Jolo, does not have a very firm hold on the Moros. The stronger Datus or chiefs do pretty much as they please, and some of the islands as well as in Mindanao, they repudiate his authority.

The Moros in many respects are more like the Sioux Indians of America, than the Filipinos of the Island of Luzon.

General Bates states that the climate of Jolo is drier than it is in Manila, and apparently healthier. The islands are very fertile and there is not a great deal of waste land. The pearl fisheries are of considerable importance and copra and hemp are at present the chief articles of export. Commercially, as well as strategically, the islands are advantageous to the Americans and it is not thought that the authorities will have any trouble there. The only troops now in Jolo are eight companies of the 23rd Infantry under the command of Major Goodale, who is soon to be promoted to Lieutenant Colonel.

When General Bates visited Mindanao, a prominent Dato professed the utmost friendship for the Americans and offered to prove his sincerity by leading a force of Moros against the insurgents at Zamboanga.

It is felt on all sides that General Bates has done excellent service in bringing the Jolo archipelago under control without bloodshed and so speedily.—*American*.

REBELS TRY TO RAID ILOILO.

HARD FIGHTING AT LA PAZ.

La Paz, Panay Island, 15th August.

Shortly after noon to-day the rebels attempted to cut off outpost No. 6 a quarter of mile east of the La Paz church, but fortunately the attempt was discovered by the reserve, near the church and reinforcements were at once summoned by telephone from the headquarters of the 1st Tennessee. The excellent signal service here has provided telephone service between La Paz, brigade headquarters, and the Tennessee headquarters at Iloilo, Molo, and other points. A detachment of 19 men each from Co. A and Co. C of the 6th held the guard line from La Paz north on the Jaro River front. Colonel Childers, of the 1st Tenn., at once responded with four companies of his Regiment. The rebels were in some force on the neck of land extending east and south of here to the bay, below the elbow of the Jaro River, which makes a turn and empties in the strait a mile east of La Paz.

A desperate fire was opened by the rebel sharpshooters upon Colonel Childers as he was leading Co. F on top of a rice ridge, having dismounted some time before. They formed a good target, but slid down behind the ridge in mud and water up to their waists the Colonel marching shoulder to shoulder with his men and encouraging them by his brave example. Other officers displayed similar daring. The Americans advanced but slowly, their march being further impeded by the tangle of weeds and grass. A large number of native shacks were burned, besides which considerable quantities of rice were destroyed. While the volley firing was at its heaviest word was brought that the watchman on the tower of Jaro saw reinforcements coming down to the rebels from further inland. Co. G. of the 18th Infantry, stationed at Iloilo, and which does part of the guard duty here, was ordered out at once. Battery G. of the 6th Artillery also advanced rapidly from Iloilo bridge, a half mile or more from the La Paz church. The Battery's services were not required. A straggling fire was kept up by the rebels after a heavy rain came up and the Americans fell back without any loss just before nightfall. While the fight progressed the mosquito fleet of minor gunboats played in the strait near the mouth of the Jaro river but did no firing.

Max, in one of the companies assert that an old Filipino was burned to death. He was dragged out of his shack, they claimed, before it was fired, but broke away from the soldiers and rushed back into the flames, determined to die with his property if he could not save it. The story is discredited.

La Paz lies on the neck of land between the Jaro and Iloilo Rivers. This section is low and much of it subject to overflow at high tide and has afforded a fine nest for the rebels, who have evidently used it as a landing for rice. They have good rifle-pits on the far side of the Jaro River, beyond the American frontier. The men are wondering whether this frontier will be extended north now or later on.

Beyond one or two prostrations from the falling march through the rice swamps there were no casualties on the American side. What if any number of rebels were killed is not known to-night. Since sun-down the rebels have continued firing volleys at the largely strengthened outpost. Their firing to-day was much lower and showed more skill and accuracy than in previous conflicts in Panay. They have evidently been having a little target practice of their own. Some of our men had close calls.

Iloilo, 21st August.

As predicted by the Times' Panay Island correspondent last week, after the fight at La Paz, the gunboats have now had to go up the river, and they opened fire on the rebels' stronghold east of that town this morning. The *Whetling* and *Helena* bombarded their quarters, dropping twenty-five shells into the large building, they occupied as well as into their trenches, while the mosquito fleet played about in the harbour to cut off any attempts to escape. Battery G. of the 6th artillery went to La Paz from here, but its services were not required. A small force of rebels were seen decamping from the neck of land in great confusion when the first shell went crashing into their trenches. They abandoned everything and fled across the

Jaro river toward the interior. A telegraph operator on the watch tower at Jaro reported the effect of the shooting, and signals were flashed from headquarters here to the gunboats directing their aim. Some excellent gunning is to be recorded.

Jaro, Panay Island, 21st August.

This morning at 10 o'clock U. S. gunboats in the harbour of Iloilo put out and steamed up the channel of the strait to the mouth of the Jaro river and immediately began a bombardment of the narrow neck of land between the sea and the town of La Paz where an attack was made last week, as indicated at the time. A telegraph operator was stationed in the Jaro watch tower and a constant communication was kept up during the bombardment, signals being given the gunboats as to where their shells were striking. The firing was some three miles from Jaro, but the detonation of the big guns could be plainly heard. At this writing the effect of the bombardment is not known, but it will without doubt clear this section of country from further rebel raids—or rather, attempts at raids. The bombardment was planned last week the next day after the fight at La Paz and this morning selected as the time, providing the weather should prove fair. It rained hard at breakfast time, but the sea remained calm enough and the sun came out before the designated hour.

Iloilo, 16th August.

Last night the portion of the 18th Infantry stationed here slept with their clothes on, under orders to be ready to march to La Paz at a moment's warning. At midnight a sentry discovered natives stirring around in a large building that is being constructed near the Plaza, in the heart of the business portion of Iloilo. He at once notified the officer of the guard that a secret conclave was being held and a large force was sent to surround the place. The natives some thirty in number, were all asleep, or feigning sleep, when the guard came upon them, and it took a long while to get some of them awake. They displayed much more zeal and energy in keeping asleep than they ever do in their waking moments. They asserted that they were carpenters waiting to begin work, and as nothing could be proved against them of a seditious or incendiary character they were allowed to depart without arrest.

This has been a busy day on the water front. Many officers that took part in the skirmish at La Paz yesterday were on the gunboats giving the officers the proper range to drop their shells among the rebels. What sort of a campaign against them has been determined on cannot be learned, as future movements are kept secret.

La Paz, Panay Island, 16th August.

This morning a Visayan boy came in to our outposts this side the Jaro river, with the word that two rebels were killed in the skirmishes yesterday and several wounded. Until yesterday this town has been the place where all the beef for this command has been slaughtered. Yesterday the quarters of the butchers and the big slaughter house were riddled with bullets, as were the quarters of the reserve post, from which the alarm was telephoned. To-day there has been some firing but the rebels show no disposition to renew hostilities. Once, long ago, when the Spanish forces for the protection of Iloilo were at Jaro, the rebels stole in upon Iloilo by La Paz. It is not believed they were attempting this yesterday and it is supposed they simply hoped to capture the Sixth Infantry men who were on the outpost. The rebels, on the occasion mentioned, fell upon the Spaniards at Jaro from the rear. They retreated over the Jaro river and then down to La Paz, following the course their pursuers had come from. It was like chasing a man round a tree. The Spanish were unfortunate enough to keep the rebels out of Iloilo on that occasion, it is related.—*Manila Times* correspondent.

The steamer *Charterhouse* has been sold by Mr. Ezra Nathan to Messrs. Wee Bin & Co., who will employ her in the coolie trade between ports in China and the Straits. The *Charterhouse* is now under the command of Captain Maddox, recently of the *Amherst*.—*Singapore Free Press*.

"HOOKER" WRECK BEING INVESTIGATED

COMMISSION NAMED FOR THAT PURPOSE ALREADY AT WORK.

Manila, 24th August.

A Board of Officers consisting of Lieutenant Colonel Charles L. Potter, U. S. Volunteers, Engineer Officer, Captain Raymond Sulzer, Assistant Quartermaster, U. S. Volunteers, Captain Benjamin C. Morse, 17th U. S. Infantry, and 1st Lieutenant Ulysses G. Worriow, 20th U. S. Infantry, was called to meet on the afternoon of the 19th instant, at 3 o'clock or as soon thereafter as practicable, to investigate and determine the facts and fix the responsibility connected with the grounding of the United States transport *Hooker* about 5 p.m., the 11th instant, near Corregidor Island, while en route from this port to Hongkong.

The Board will, as soon as practicable, report the labours of the Navy and the Quartermaster's Department of the Army thus far performed to secure the release of the vessel, and the expense connected therewith, and whether, in its opinion, effort should be continued or the vessel left to its fate. It will also report full loss incurred by the United States Government whether the vessel is ultimately saved or becomes a total loss.—*Manila Times*.

SANDAKAN NOTES.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Sandakan, 20th August.

Dr. Adamson, Medical Officer of Labuan, has been struck by lightning whilst at his dining table, the result being that his legs are paralyzed, at least temporarily. It is hoped he may soon recover the use of the affected limbs.

The local shipping Co., the Sabah S.S. Co., Limited, has just issued its fifth report, for the financial year ended 31st June last. It is proposed to pay a dividend of \$10 per share, together with a bonus of \$5 per share, which will leave a balance of \$1,589.14 to be carried forward. The Co. has three small steamers the *Labuan*, *Normanhurst*, and *Taganac*, and the past year's working must be considered fairly satisfactory.

One of these steamers, the *Labuan*, broke her crank-shaft on Monday last, whilst on a voyage from Sandakan to Darvel Bay. Fortunately, however, the vessel was only a few hours out, and managed to get back into the harbour under her own steam. The broken shaft is being repaired temporarily, and a new one has been cabled for.

NORTH FORMOSA.

[FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT.]

Tamsui, 22nd August.

The north of Formosa has heard but little of rebels, or more properly banditti, for the past few months, and it was hoped that these pests had been disposed of permanently. During the last week or so, however, there has been considerable in the local papers regarding the reappearance of the "toih" in certain of the country districts, and some of the old offenders who had surrendered to the Japanese and exchanged the cracking rifle for the pipe of peace are reported to be again on the rampage. Smuggling of arms has been reported on several occasions lately and the leading Japanese journal has gone so far as to put forth a most atrocious libel stating that one of the leading Foreign firms in South Formosa had a hand in this nefarious business.

On the 12th inst. an attack by banditti was made on the little village of Rokto, near the railway and 5 miles distant from Kelung. Here were located three temporary huts occupied by 6 Japanese who were engaged at work on a tunnel. On the arrival at about 10 in the evening of the banditti, consisting of upwards of 150 armed men, the Japanese were taken entirely unawares, several being asleep, having retired for the night.

On hearing the shouts of the attacking party and the reports of the firearms, the unarmed Japanese fled through to the rear of their houses and escaped in the darkness, all with two exceptions reaching a place of safety. One Japanese was shot down dead and the young wife of one of the Japanese in the terror and confu-

sion of the scene ran along a path which led to the edge of a steep precipice; the proximity of which she could not have known, and her lifeless body was found the next morning at its foot. There is a romantic tale in which the young wife figures. It seems this young girl, for such she was, had been a geisha, a renowned beauty, often seen in the Ishiriki, a house of entertainment. She had left this lucrative life of ease and pleasure to wed the young man of her heart, a Japanese without wealth or position, and with him she had put up with all the hardships of a life of comparative poverty in a wretched hut in a filthy fever-stricken village where life must have been torture and which finally ended in a horrible death.

The banditti stripped the houses of all their contents, even carrying away the mosquito nets and bedding, and after having set fire to the buildings and seen the conflagration well under way, retired in the darkness of the night and have not been heard of again. Besides the two fatalities mentioned there were five Japanese wounded. It might be mentioned that the handful of Chinese villagers present gave the Japanese every assistance in making their escape.

CANON OTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

On the 25th inst. seven pirates implicated in the piracy on the Portuguese steamer *Taiping* were taken out from the Namhoi prison and carried in baskets to Tintzmatow for decapitation. These pirates were captured by surprise while they were attending a theatrical performance in Kongmun. One of the detectives who effected their capture was seriously wounded.

Ma Ta-hu, who as previously reported, was arrested upon a charge of aiding and abetting her master, Wong Tsun-shui, late Director-General of the likin revenue of Kwangtung, to make squeezes, was tried by the Punyu Magistrate the other day. After a short trial she was released, but she was rearrested on the following day, when she said she had no knowledge of the illegal action of her master and that she had only purchased eight houses for him. She has been severely tortured and is still locked up in the prison. The members of the family of Wong are now engaged in removing all their moveable property to other places and have made every preparation for effecting their escape.

The Saichin brigands have taken refuge in Taipingsha, where mulberry trees are densely planted. This place is a centre of the silk industry. The Imperial troops who have surrounded the place dare not go in to root them out.

General Liu Yung-fu and the Namhoi Magistrate on the 14th and 15th August destroyed about 1,200 houses in Lokokwai. The place numbered in all about 4,000 houses, which have all been deserted. The Namhoi Magistrate, affected by the horrible sight of the ruins, found his conscience moved and on the 16th he ordered the soldiers to retire and stop burning the remaining houses. He has now returned to Canton with General Liu Yung-fu to ask the Viceroy to have mercy on the poor inhabitants and their houses.

All the junks towed by steam launches running between Canton and Fa-nu district have given up their traffic on the ground of their being unable to satisfy the demands of the pirates for blackmail.

THE PLAGUE.

Plague still lingers in the colony, notwithstanding all the measures taken for its suppression, while it has disappeared from the neighbouring Chinese ports of Amoy and Pakhoi, where nothing at all has been done in connection with improved sanitation. Occasionally a day passes without any new cases being reported, but on others two, three, or four cases may occur. The weekly returns since June have been as follows:

WEEK ENDING.	CASES.	DEATHS.
June 3	92	97
" 10	97	91
" 17	109	117
" 24	148	138

July 1	142	144
" 8	100	98
" 15	64	65
" 22	30	32
" 29	37	39
Aug. 5	29	29
" 12	20	23
" 19	24	23
" 26	15	15

The daily returns for the past week have been as follows:—

	CASES.	DEATHS.
Sunday	3	3
Monday	1	1
Tuesday	3	3
Wednesday	1	1
Thursday	4	4

Since the beginning of the year there have been 1,418 cases and 1,360 deaths.

HONGKONG.

One of the men injured by the collapse of the old synagogue in Graham Street last week died in the Hospital on Friday.

On 24th August two more bodies were found among the debris of the old synagogue which collapsed in Graham Street the other day.

The only cases of communicable disease reported last week, in addition to plague, were one of enteric fever (fatal) and one of puerperal fever.

We hear that upon the termination of the lease held by the Peak Club the Pavilions are to revert to their original use as a sanitarium for Government officials.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that the Queen's exequatur empowering Cavaliere Zanoni Volpicelli to act as Consul for Italy at Hongkong has received Her Majesty's signature.

At the Magistracy on Tuesday a boy named Chau Fuk, who had nine previous convictions against him, was sentenced to a year's imprisonment for disobeying an order of banishment.

A coolie employed in the erection of the new structure behind Queen's Buildings fell from the top storey on Saturday afternoon, sustaining injuries which caused his almost immediate death.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that H.E. the Governor has been pleased to recognise Mr. H. E. Silvestri as in temporary charge of the Austro-Hungarian consulate during the absence of Mr. M. Kutschera or until further notice.

The Hon. T. H. Whitehead proposes to ask at the next meeting of the Legislative Council if it is true that Tung Cheong was foully and brutally murdered at or near the village of Un Loong on 17th or 18th April last. Seeing that a jury in the Supreme Court has found the fact of the murder proved, and that two of the murderers have been convicted and executed, the question seems rather superfluous.

At a regular meeting of the Lion and Rose Lodge R.A.O.B., held at the Lodge room, No. 10, Queen's Road Central, on 29th August, the following officers were elected for the month of September:—S. P., Primo Dalton; C. Mar.; Bro. Marsden; C. Tyler, Bro. Tuohy; C. Con., Bro. Shute; C. Cham., Bro. Mackie; C. Rep., Bro. Burnett; C. A. of B., Primo Oxbery; C. Min., Primo Barrett; C. Treas., Bro. Roberts; C. Sec., Primo Watling; C. W., Bro. Parkinson; C. Ta., Bro. Coors; C. Phy., Bro. Jenner. Harmony was contributed during the evening by Primos Dalton, Oxbery and Burrell, and Brothers Jenner, Ward, Hopkins, Marsden, and Roberts.

The British four-masted-barque *Simla*, Capt. Cebu, Huestes, which arrived on 25th August from which port she left on the 22nd July, experienced a typhoon on the voyage. Captain Huestes reports:—In lat. 16° N. long. 127° E. ship encountered a typhoon and at 4.30 a.m. on 4th August the ballast shifted, throwing the ship on her beam ends. Cut away masts; ship righted somewhat; getting from one part of the ship to the other by walking on the outside part of her. The typhoon moderating on the 5th. The crew working incessantly at trimming the ballast for a week. On 16th secured the remaining yards and masts and made all possible sail and set course for the Bashee Channel for Hongkong. Winds during the typhoon, N., N.W., S.W., and S.

There were 1,645 visitors to the City Hall-Museum last week of whom 171 were Europeans.

Mr. W. H. T. Davis, the local agent of the Straits Insurance Co., Limited, informs us that he has received telegraphic advice from the head office, Singapore, that negotiations are in progress for the transfer of the Eastern business of the Company to the South British Fire and Marine Insurance Co. of New Zealand.

The carpenters employed at Hunghom Docks being at loggerheads with their guild, half a dozen constables have been sent across to prevent breaches of the peace. The members of the guild have not only threatened violence, but one evening last week armed themselves with knives and chisels and attacked three of the dock carpenters. One of the latter was seriously wounded that he had to be taken to the Hospital.

A general order dated Tuesday says:—“H.E. the Governor has been pleased to make the following appointments to the Volunteer Corps, dated 24th August:—Maurice Bernal Blake, Esq., to be Lieutenant in the Field Battery, Hongkong Volunteer Corps, Supernumerary to the Establishment; Thomas Skinner, Esq., to be Lieutenant in 'D' Infantry Company.” Mr. Maurice Bernal Blake is the Governor's son and has come out to act as His Excellency's A.D.C.

Some doubt has been thrown on the statement published in these columns that Baldomero Aguinaldo, cousin of the Filipino leader, had arrived in Hongkong. We observe, however, that the *Manila Times* publishes a telegram from its Hongkong correspondent stating that Baldomero has been seen on the street here by men who know him perfectly well, and that the statement that he had gone back to the Insurgent lines was only intended to put the Americans off the track.

The advantage of employing a watchman is illustrated by the following extract from the Rev. R. F. Cobbold's "Notes" for September:—“We have not had to wait long for a demonstration of the use of a watchman. On Saturday night, the 5th of August, at 11 o'clock, a man was discovered by the watchman apparently trying to effect an entrance into the Cathedral. On being observed, he ran away, and though eight others, besides the watchman, took up the chase, including three members of the police, he managed to escape.”

The Rev. R. F. Cobbold, Chaplain of St John's Cathedral, in his "Notes" for September, says,—"The first section of the choir stalls is at last completed, and we hope we may soon be enabled to proceed with the second section. The clergy stalls (separate gifts) are in hand. The work has been excellently carried out by Chinese workmen from designs prepared in Mr. Danby's office, to whom also we are indebted for the oak of which the stalls are made. It has an historic interest, having been purchased when H.M.S. *Victor Emmanuel* was broken up last year."

At the Harbour Office on Tuesday, before Commander Rumsey, four Chinese who belong to the steward's department of the P. and O. steamship *Bombay* were charged with unlawfully deserting the ship while in Hongkong harbour on the 24th, 25th, and 26th August. Mr. Lawrence Lewis, chief clerk in the P. and O. office, said the defendants were shipped in Hongkong in July last for six months. The *Bombay* arrived here on the afternoon of the 23rd August. Four saloon waiters, three of whom were in the dock, deserted that day. On the following day, the steward in charge brought the No. 1 saloon waiter (the first defendant) to the office and reported the desertion of the four men. Enquiry was made but without satisfactory result. As the ship was due to sail, four new men were shipped. The No. 1 stated that if this were done all the others would desert. The ship sailed after the new men had been shipped, and precautions had been taken on board to prevent any further desertions. As the ship was leaving the bay it was reported that the No. 1 had got away again from the ship. The ship was detained in consequence of the desertions and being saloon waiters their absence placed the ship in a very awkward position. The No. 1 was sentenced to four weeks' imprisonment with hard labour, and each of the others to ten days' imprisonment with hard labour.

Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., was a passenger to Australia by the *Kosuga Maru*. We hope the voyage will result in the complete re-establishment of the learned gentleman's health.

A letter from Consul-General Wildman is published in the *Gazette* transmitting an order issued by the U.S. War Department to the effect that no merchandise may be brought, under penalty of forfeiture thereof, into Cuba, Porto Rico, or the Philippine Islands from the United States or any Foreign country, in any vessel measuring less than 30 tons gross in capacity.

There seems some confusion as to the correct designation of the Kowloon Extension. "Hinterland" is frequently used, but is an inapplicable term, because "hinterland" means the country beyond a settled frontier and is usually associated with imperfectly explored and comparatively unknown regions. The Kowloon Extension has its frontier regularly delimited, the country is thoroughly explored and is well known, and a settled administration has been established; it now forms, in fact, an integral part of the colony of Hongkong and therefore cannot be called a hinterland. The latter term is only applicable to the country beyond the frontier, say the remaining part of the Sunon District, the Tungkun District, and Waichow District, i.e. all the country up to the East River and as much farther as the reader's imagination may be pleased to travel. On the whole the "New Territory," with a capital N and T seems the best term for the colony's recent acquisition.

Jealousy runs high between Roman Catholic, and Protestant missionaries all over the world. A correspondence has recently been going on in the columns of the *N. C. Daily News* in which the Bishops of the Roman Catholic and Anglican Churches have taken part, each trying to place the other in the wrong in regard to disputes and disturbances that have arisen between the converts of the respective faiths in certain districts. We note, too, that Cardinal Moran has been writing to the *Sydney Daily Telegraph* animadverting severely on the conduct of Wesleyan missionaries in Fiji, and supporting his strictures by quotations from numerous authorities. In concluding his letter he refers to what he terms the desecration of the Blessed Eucharist, not only among the Protestant sects in Fiji, but indeed throughout all the island groups of the Pacific. "Perhaps, however, we should not be surprised," he writes, "at these sacrilegious innovations on the part of the Wesleyans and Independents, for a few years ago the head of the Anglican Church at Hongkong advocated the use of tea in the Eucharist, instead of wine, and the Anglican Bishop of Nelson, Dr. Hophouse, relates how he himself, on one occasion in 1862 substituted plain water, instead of wine. Any mission that desecrates the Blessed Eucharist, which is the sacrament of everlasting life, cannot fail to bring with it a malediction instead of an abiding blessing."

At the Magistracy on Tuesday, before the Acting Police Magistrate (Mr. H. Gompertz), a Chinese cook named Leung Fan was charged by Colonel Retallick, of the Hongkong Regiment, with stealing \$10.50. It appears that on the 5th June the Colonel advanced the defendant \$10.50, and that same evening the cook was missing. The matter was reported to the Yaumatei Police Station, but nothing was heard of the defendant. Colonel Retallick obtained some information as to his whereabouts, and wrote to Captain Superintendent May. Chief Detective Inspector Hanson was placed in charge of the case, and on Monday night the defendant was arrested by Detective Sergeant Sullivan and a Chinese detective at the residence of Mr. E. V. Brennan, Commissioner of Customs, at the Peak. The defendant was taken over to Colonel Retallick's residence at Kowloon on Monday night, and was there identified by the Colonel and Mrs. Retallick and by the house boy. Defendant gave his name as Leung Ping, and denied that he had ever been in the employ of Colonel Retallick. In the witness box on Tuesday the house boy said he could not identify the prisoner. He thought the cook recently employed by Colonel Retallick was somewhat stouter. Captain Superintendent May gave evidence that the defendant was formerly in his employment, his name was Leung Fan. The defendant was sentenced to two months with hard labour.

MISCELLANEOUS.

There were again no cases of plague on Saturday and no deaths from the disease. That is the second consecutive day that has shown a clean bill.

A baby born on the *Nippon Maru* while she was in quarantine at San Francisco has been christened Quarantina Angelina. As a contemporary remarks, this is rather rough on the baby.

A suit for yen 4,716 has been commenced at Kobe against the steamer *Argyll*, being damages claimed for the demolition of a pier which was under construction and which it is alleged was carried away by the *Argyll* when she stranded in the recent typhoon.

Captain Kunrath, lately the master of the steamer *Amboina*, which was wrecked recently at Mergui, died there on the 4th August of heart disease. The deceased had sailed for over twenty years on the China Sea, and had left Singapore to take command of that vessel only a year ago. — *Straits Times*.

"Looker-on" in the *Japan Gazette* says:—Some of your readers may be interested to know that about ten o'clock on the night the big fire took place here the *America Maru*, after a speedy trip from the Pacific coast via Honolulu, was approaching Japan off Cape King from which she was distant 10 miles when her commander became aware of the conflagration 45 miles distant. So lurid was the glare as he neared the coast that it was with considerable difficulty he picked up his landmarks.

When the P. & O. steamer *Rohilla* was making her way towards the Hatoba, on her arrival in Yokohama harbour on the 14th August, says the *Japan Gazette*, she stuck on the mud, owing, it is said, to the inefficiency of the harbour dredging. Afterwards, when she shifted with the rising tide, the chain of one of the mooring buoys got underneath her propeller. Divers were sent down to make things clear, and being successful in their efforts the steamer got alongside the Hatoba soon after midday on the 15th, apparently unscathed.

Some photographs of views in Weihaiwei have been shown to us which indicate that the new port is developing in a satisfactory manner, and that the Weihaiwei Land and Building Company have lost no time in carrying out their particular business, for several handsome and commodious bungalows are now completed on part of the Company's land. These houses will meet the present demand for accommodation, and as this demand increases, as it is bound to do, the Company will no doubt further extend their building operations. Everyone who has visited Weihaiwei recently is convinced that in a very short time it will surpass Chefoo as a summer resort. — *N. C. Daily News*.

In an article in the *Straits Times* on "Three Pictures of Singapore—1819, 1859, 1899" the following passage referring to the middle period appears:—So scarce were ladies that just before this time a "broke" man "speculated" and got out a score of young damsels from home on a matrimonial venture, and disposed of them all in honourable marriage within six months, he receiving a thousand dollars from each happy bridegroom! But—"tell it not in Gath," and certainly the daughters of these ladies will not know of the matrimonial freaks of their "mamas," as these would naturally remain dumb on the point.

Shanghai girls are still coming to the front. The innumerable friends of Captain Patterson of the China Merchants' service will learn with great pleasure that his daughter Josephine, a Shanghai girl, is following in the footsteps of the celebrated Emma Eames. She has won, the *San Francisco Call*, which gives a portrait of her, tells us, the coveted place of contralto soloist in Gilmore's celebrated band, in competition with some of the greatest vocalists of New York city. Their voices were tried in a hall which has a seating capacity of 10,000 persons, and to sing successfully there is considered the most severe test to which the voice can be put. Miss Patterson sang a selection in English, one in French, and one in Italian, and was engaged at once. Mr. E. A. Contourier, the conductor of the band, stated that her first song won her the prize. Miss Patterson left Alameda in California, where she has resided for some years, last autumn, to complete her musical studies, which have been crowned with this triumphant success. — *N. C. Daily News*.

Manila already has two Chambers of Commerce, the "International" in which English interests predominate, and the "Manila," which is a Spanish organisation. Steps have now been taken toward the establishment of an American Chamber of Commerce.

The caricaturist of the *Fiji* makes Italy and China the subject of his last cartoon. Italy appears in a suppliant posture, and using the language of childhood, cries *ai ni mo okure* (please give me some too). China, in flowing costume, particularly old-fashioned, is holding up a concession for railway-making and mine-exploiting, and the other Powers, grouped in the background, are laughing merrily at the spectacle. — *Japan Mail*.

The *Japan Gazette* of 14th August says:— "We suppose the captains and agents of the *Empress of India* and the *America Maru* will strenuously contend that those vessels are not racing hence to Kobe. Yet there is a very strong impression on the minds of persons interested in shipping that both ships will be pushed between the two ports. Both were advertised to leave at 2 p.m. to-day. The *Empress* cast off from her buoy very promptly, and by a quarter past two was a quarter of a mile clear of the harbour. The *America Maru* did not get away so expeditiously, and the *Empress* was close to the Lightship before the other was out of the harbour entrance. It will be interesting to learn in what order they arrive at Kobe." The *Empress of India* entered Kobe harbour at 1.15 p.m. on the 15th and the *America Maru* at 1.45 p.m.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

SHANGHAI, 28th August. — (From Messrs. W. J. Lewis & Co.'s Circular.)—Machin-Made Black Teas.—A small chop of Machine-made Wenchow Tea sold in London at 8d on 20th July, whilst the best chop made in the old Native fashion by the same makers at the same time only bought 6½d. on 17th July. These Teas were sold by the same brokers and are a fair test of the improvement caused by the use of machinery. The experiments with second crop leaf at Yung Tso Tung have resulted in making a palatable article of fair strength, instead of the weak unpleasant flavored Tea which it has hitherto been. Results from both the above districts are very encouraging for further efforts, and are well worth the serious attention of the Chinese Government, as the present Native labour is apparently quite suitable for carrying out the improved method of curing by machinery. Black Tea.—The second crop of Hankow districts Teas is reckoned at 150,000 half-chests, against 155,000 half-chests last season, and Kiang districts give 25,000 half-chests 21,000 half-chests, making the total about the same as it was last year. The third crop will probably not exceed that of last year, and will be bought for shipment to Russia. This market has been nearly monopolised by one buyer, who has operated freely in Keemun at 17½ at 21, and Ningchows at 17½ at 24.

Settlements reported are:—

Ningchow.....	4,240 ½-chest, TL 17½ at 24.
Keemun.....	5,180 " " 16½ at 21½.
Hobow.....	286 " " 18
Oonan.....	360 " " 17 at 18.60

10,066

Stock, 9,558 half chests, against 16,758 ½ chests at same time last year.

Green Tea.—During the past week sales of some of the new crop Ping-ueys "to arrive" have been made in New York, which indicates a much better feeling there this year than was apparent at this time last year; but telegraphed valuations of the first samples of new season's Country Teas are disappointing, the same features prevailing as were observed throughout the Spring, i.e., common lines are much above their normal value, and the better grades are below their comparative values. No. 1 quality and No. 2 quality of Young Hysons being valued at same prices. Ping-ueys.—There is little or no change to report. Teamen have valued their holdings with a great deal of precision, and buyers have to pay the rates demanded; there is no margin for profit unless the consuming markets advance, but with settlements amounting to 61,721 half-chests, against 19,453 half-chests to same date last year, and with a probable Total supply available for shipment to the United States and Canada of over 100,000 half-chests, against 83,000 half-chests for last season, the prospects of an advance are

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARÉS.		MATHA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1899.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Aug. 26	856	880	831½	—	—	} closing 1899-20
Aug. 27	855	880	831½	—	—	
Aug. 28	856½	880	832½	—	—	
Aug. 29	856½	885	832½	—	—	
Aug. 30	852½	885	830	—	—	
Aug. 31	850	882½	830	—	—	
Sept. 1	847½	885	827½	—	—	

COTTON.

Hongkong, 1st September.—With an advance of \$1 to \$1, a fair business has been put through. About 8,000 bales.

Bombay.....	15.50 to 17.50 picul.
Barnabee.....	— to —
Bengal (New), Rangoon, } ..	16.00 to 19.00 picul.
and Dacca.....	
Shanghai and Japanese, ..	20.00 to 21.00 ..
Tangshew and Ningpo.....	20.00 to 21.00 ..
Madras (Best).....	— to —
Sales, 1,500 bales Bengal (Rangoon, new), and Dacca.	

RICE.

Hongkong, 1st September.—The market continues to advance. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary.....	\$2.44 to 2.46
Round, good quality.....	2.84 to 2.87
Long.....	3.16 to 3.19
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 ..	2.79 to 2.81
Garden, No. 1 ..	3.42 to 3.47
White.....	3.74 to 3.78
Fine Cargo.....	3.97 to 4.00

COALS.

Hongkong, 1st September.—No business doing. Quotations are nominal:—

Carliff.....	\$18.00 to — ex ship, nominal
Australian.....	11.00 to — ex ship, steady
Miki Lump } ..	9.00 to 10.00 nominal,
and Small }	
Moff Lump ..	6.75 to 9.00 ex ship, quiet
Hongay double } ..	12.00 to — ex godown
screened.....	
Hongay Lump ..	8.00 to 8.50 ex ship
Hongay Dust..	5.50 to —
Briquettes ..	10.50 to — ex godown

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

Hongkong, 1st September.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

Yarn and Piece Goods:—Bombay Yarn:—2,100 bales No. 10 at \$7 to \$85 to arrive, 200 bales No. 12 at \$73 to \$82, 1,050 bales No. 20 at \$81.50 to \$88. **White Shirtings:—**500 pieces Man and Lion at \$4.85, 500 pieces Three O at \$5.40, 500 pieces No. 2 at \$5.50, 500 pieces O O O at \$5.40. **Grey Shirtings:—**100 pieces 10 lbs. Green Flower at \$3.05. **T. Cloths:—**1,000 pieces 7 lbs. No. 2 S Lion at \$1.82, 500 pieces 8 lbs. Red Stag at \$3.75, 3,000 pieces 7 lbs. Mex. No. 2 S Lion at \$1.82. **Bengal Cotton:—**100 bales at \$18.50, 120 bales at \$18.80. **Long Ells:—**750 pieces 8 lbs. Scarlet at \$6.75 to arrive No. 22/24. **Yarn:—**50 bales Tylars, Red D. at \$109, 50 bales Red Pleasant at \$108, 50 bales Green Pheasant at \$107.50.

COTTON YARN—		per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....	59.00 to 91.00	
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....	103.00 to 109.00	
" 22 to 24.....	107.00 to 111.00	
" 28 to 32.....	115.00 to 120.00	
" 38 to 42.....	126.00 to 134.00	

COTTON PIECE GOODS—		per piece
Gray Shirtings—8lbs.....	1.75 to 1.85	
7lbs.....	1.95 to 2.08	
8.4 lbs.....	2.45 to 3.20	
9 to 10 lbs.....	3.40 to 4.15	
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.....	2.35 to 2.55	
58 to 60 ..	2.75 to 3.40	
64 to 66 ..	3.60 to 4.45	
Fine	4.45 to 7.20	
Book-folds.....	3.90 to 5.80	
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ..	0.66 to 1.35	
T. Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.....	1.55 to 1.75	
7lbs. (32 ..)	1.88 to 2.15	
6lbs. (32 ..), Mexs.....	1.65 to 1.85	
7lbs. (32 ..)	2.15 to 2.80	
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.) ..	2.40 to 3.25	
Drills, English—40 yds., 14 to 16lbs	3.70 to 6.40	

FANCY COTTONS—		per yard
Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8lbs.....	1.65 to 4.80	
Brocades—Dyed	3.10 — 4.60	
Damasks.....	0.12 to 0.15	
Chintzes—Assorted	0.08 — 0.10	
Velvets—Black, 22 in.....	0.22 to 0.40	
Velvetons—18 in.....	0.19½ to 0.21	
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk ..	0.25 to 1.25	

WOOLLENS—		per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sandryhops.....	0.62½ to 1.52½	
German	— to —	
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths.....	1.20 to 2.25	
Long Ells—Scarlet	6.25 to 9.50	
Assorted	6.80 to 9.60	

Camlets—Assorted.....	11.50 to 31.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches, } ..	8.00 to 20.00
Assorted }	
Orleans—Plain	7.50 to 8.50
Blankets—8 to 12lb., (pair) ..	4.50 to 14.00

METALS—

		per picul
Iron—Nail Rod	5.25 to —	
Square, Flat Round Bar ..	5.25 to —	
Swedish Bar	7.00 to —	
Small Round Rod	5.50 to —	
Hoop ½ to 1½ in.....	6.00 to —	
Wire 15/25	10.00 to —	
Old Wire Rope	2.50 to —	
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Ho's Chop ..	9.10 to —	
Australian.....	9.10 to —	
Yellow Metal—Muntz, 14/20 oz.....	40.50 to —	
Vivian's, 14/20 oz.....	40.50 to —	
Elliot's, 14/20 oz.....	40.50 to —	
Composition Nails	65.00 to —	
Japan Copper, Slabs	40.00 to —	
Tiles	— to —	
Tin	92.00 to —	
Tin-Plates	8.50 to —	
Steel ½ to ¾	6.25 to —	

SUNDRIES—

		per picul
Quicksilver	151.00 to —	
Window Glass	5.80 to —	
Kerosene Oil	2.21 —	

SHANGHAI, 26th August.—(From Messrs. Noel Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade Report.)—Our market has continued extremely quiet, but it is none the less strong, as might be expected considering the decline in exchange. This is a factor that promises to play an important part in this trade during the next few months, although the dealers have covered their forward purchases to a large extent, and generally have done very well in that way. Apart from this it means increased difficulty in laying down further supplies, as the Bankers here, to protect themselves, have to make a big difference in the rates for forward transactions, at present quoting an eight per month down after February next. Considering the long delivery required by Manufacturers now this means a serious increment to the laid down cost, which was already almost beyond reach before this downward movement in sterling rates commenced, and consequently the dull in forward business is greatly accentuated. Meanwhile the delivery of former purchases is going on satisfactorily, the low prices at which they were bought no doubt stimulating the consumption, which so far has kept fully on a par with the first half of this year. It remains to be seen if it will continue on the same scale when the comparatively higher cost goods come on the market. The Tientsin merchants have been inactive so far as fresh business is concerned, but they are endeavouring to re-sell some of the goods they have on hand to the Newchwang men, who are still on the buy. The plague there so far does not appear to affect the trade, although according to foreign official reports it is assuming rather serious proportions. Very unfavourable advices are coming from Chefoo, and Shantung generally, where the crops are being considerable damaged by locusts and the import markets are consequently very depressed. The water in the Yangtze is still very high and the Szechuen markets are more or less isolated in consequence of which the dealers here are doing nothing, although it is anticipated that a good demand will set in so soon as the River becomes more navigable, when it is hoped an attempt will be made by one of the new River Gunboats of H.B. M.'s Navy to negotiate the rapids under steam. The recent successful visit of one of those boats to the Capital City of the hitherto hostile and very exclusive Province of Hunan, and exceedingly cordial reception it received from the Natives, gives fair promise of extensive trade in that direction, and we are please to see that a third boat is now being put together here for service on the Yangtze, its lakes and affluents. The Yarn market is booming, being a good demand for all Spinnings at an important advance in prices. Native Cotton is higher, but the spinning Mills have stopped work, declining to buy at present rates in face of the large quantities, estimated at fully 30 per cent. of the old crop, that have not been brought to market, and exaggerated reports of the damage sustained by the growing crop.

METALS, 28th August.—(From Messrs. Alex. Biefield & Co.'s Report.)—In Metals not much has been done, and delivery has been very slack, business with the northern port having received a sudden check on account of the outbreak of plague at Newchwang, in which place from the 22nd to the 26th the Russian Consul at Shanghai reports there were no less than 74 deaths from this disease. Strict precautions are being taken against its possible entrance into Shanghai. We have heard of the following transactions:—1,000 boxes Embo Steel, Double Horse 21½ 17.6; 75 Cart Tyre 11½ 6, c. f.

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 1st September.—The market has ruled dull with but little business, and rates in most cases show a further decline. The settlements on the 31st ultimo (which passed off in a satisfactory manner) and the political aspect were the chief causes for the quietness which has been chief feature of the market during the week under review.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai were on offer at 358 and 357 per cent. prem. in the early part of the week without inducing any but small sales although a demand at 355 met with no response. Later, however, over the settlement shares changed hands at 353 and 352. On time a few shares were negotiated at 362 for November and at 365 for December. Market closes steady at 356 cash with sales at 362 and 363 for October. Nationals are still wanted at \$25 to \$25½, but none have changed hands.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders have been pretty generally enquired for and in the early part of the week were negotiated at \$62; later, however, with the demand unsatisfied the rate rose to \$63, at which the market closes firm with buyers; the rise is attributable to a rumoured dividend of \$4 payable next month. Unions have continued steady to firm at \$260 with sales. Cantons are still enquired for at \$150, but none seem forthcoming. Straits have changed hands at \$64, whilst the Northern Insurances remain dull and without any local business.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have ruled very quiet with only very small sales at quotation and close quiet. Indo-China have also continued dull with but small sales at \$68 and \$67½. China Manilas remain unchanged with small sales, whilst Douglasses have declined to \$53 with sales and close with sellers. China Mutuals unchanged and without business.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have ruled quite neglected with no business, sellers ruling the market at \$151, whilst sales are reported over settlements at \$147. Luzons unchanged and without business.

MINING.—Punjoms after a long period of inaction have been enquired for, first at the low rate of \$7½, but with no supply the rate gradually rose to \$8½ to \$9, at which shares changed hands, and the market closes steady at \$9. Charbonnages without business but with a small demand at \$245 to \$250. Queen Mine continue on offer at 50 cents with a small business at that. Jebebus have ruled weak with sellers and no buyers at \$14, and over the settlements shares could have been obtained at even a lower rate. Olyers (B's) and Great Easterns changed hands at quotations and later at \$6.75 and \$9.20 respectively. Raubs have been in some demand and the rate gradually rose to \$62½ without bringing many shares on the market, which closes steady at \$63.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have ruled much quieter with sales at 515 and 513 per cent. prem. for cash and at 535 and 530 for November; the market, however, closes much firmer at 520. Kowloon Godowns have changed hands at \$96 and \$97, closing steady at the latter rate. Wanchais are still enquired for without bringing any shares on the market.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have ruled steady to strong with sales at \$106, \$116½, and \$107, closing with buyers at \$118. Hotels have been in demand for cash at \$129 and \$130 and on time at equivalents, but shares are scarce and firmly held. Humphreys have been on offer at \$104, and sales were effected at 10 over settlements; market closes at \$104, sellers and probable buyers at \$11. West Point unchanged and without business.

COTTON MILLS.—Continue neglected. Quotations for the Northern Mills are taken from the last Shanghai circulars.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Star Ferries have found buyers at \$17½, Watsons at \$16½ and \$17, Electricos at \$13 and \$13½, and Fenwicks at \$43. Green Islands have been on offer at \$31 without inducing business. Dairy Farms are enquired for in a small way and China Providents have changed hands at \$9.90 and \$10.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		[570,
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	356 p. ct. prem.,=
China & Japan, ordy.	£4	£.
Do. deferred	£1	£5 5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	£8	\$25, buyers
Foun. Shares	£8	\$2, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	£1	nominal
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$12, buyers
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$9.90, sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$151, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 67½, buyers
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 75
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 77½
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 350
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 57½
Hongkong	\$100	\$70, sellers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$5.25, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$43, sales & sellers
Green Island Cement	\$0	\$30, buyers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$25.
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$127.
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$13, buyers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$145.
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$150, buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$180, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$97, buyers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$190, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	\$520 p. ct. prem.,=
Insurance—		\$775, buyers
Canton	\$50	\$150, buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$88½.
China Traders	\$25	\$63, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$312½, buyers
North-China	£25	Tls. 200, buyers
Straits	\$20	\$6½, sales & sellers
Union	\$50	\$260.
Yangtze	\$60	\$117, buyers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$50	\$108, buyers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$10, buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$29, sellers
West Point Building	\$50	\$35½, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$54.
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$245, buyers
Gt. Estn. & C'donian	\$5	\$3.25 sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	80 cts., sellers
Jebeu	\$5	\$14, sellers
Queen's Mines Ltd.	25c.	50 cts., sellers
Oliver's Mines, A.	\$5	\$8½, buyers
Do. B.	\$4½	\$6½, buyers
Punjom	\$6	\$9.
Do. Preference	\$1	\$2.
Raubs	15s. 10d	\$62½, buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$16½, buyers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$91.
China Mutual Pref.	£10	£9. 15s., buyers
China Ordinary	£10	£6, 0s., buyers
Do.	£5	£3, 0s., buyers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$53, sellers
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$32, sellers
Indo-China S. N.	£10	\$67½, buyers
Star Ferry	\$7½	\$17½, buyers
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	\$5, sellers
Do.	\$3	\$3, sellers
United Asbestos	\$2	\$2½, buyers
Do.	\$10	\$10, nominal
Wanchai Warehouse	\$37½	\$45, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$17, sellers

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

SHANGHAI, 28th August.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report).—With exception of Bank shares, a fair general business was done, and prices were well maintained, with improvements in some cases. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. No local business is reported, in the absence of buyers. We quote 859 per cent. premium, as the closing cash price. Marine Insurance.—Unions improved in Hongkong to \$247½. North Chinas were sold at Tls. 200 and are wanted. Cantons were sold to Hongkong at \$117½. Straits Insurance Co.—The scheme for reconstruction has failed, and the Directors recommend voluntary liquidation. Fire Insurance.—No local business reported. Ship

ping.—Indo-China Steam Navigation shares have been in demand, and business was done at Tls. 52½ cash, Tls. 54 for October, and Tls. 54½ for December. China Mutual S. N. Preference shares were sold at Tls. 72, and Ordinary, with £5 paid up, at Tls. 80. Sugars.—Perak Sugar Cultivation shares were placed for December at Tls. 63½ at which shares are offering. Luzon Sugar Refining shares are wanted at \$53, and are held for \$54. Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Shares in Boyd & Co. are wanted. S. C. Farnham & Co. shares changed hands at Tls. 215. Shanghai Engineering Preference shares were sold at Tls. 110, and Ordinary at Tls. 95. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares have been in demand, partly to cover short sales for the 31st current, and business was done at Tls. 227½/235 for cash and for the 31st and Tls. 242½ for 31st December. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown shares were purchased from Hongkong at \$97. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment shares were sold at Tls. 62½ and 62. Hongkong Land Investment shares were sold at \$106. Humphreys Estate and Finance shares were purchased from Hongkong at \$10.40. Industrial Shanghai Gas shares were placed at Tls. 200. In Cotton Mill shares business was done.—E-wos at Tls. 65 cash, Internationals at Tls. 75 cash, and Laou-kung-mows at Tls. 80 for 31st December. Shanghai Eis Actien Gesellschaft.—At the extraordinary meeting of shareholders held on the 24th it was unanimously decided to sell the plant to the Shanghai Ice Co. and liquidate the Co. The vendors receive three shares in the Ice Co. for each share, and they have also the Reserve Fund, and the profits on the year's working. Shanghai Ice C.S. & R. Co.—The resolution to increase the capital by the creation of 3,000 new shares was confirmed at the meeting held on the 24th. Shares have changed hands at Tls. 86, cum the right to the new issue at par. Tugs & Cargo Boats.—Shanghai Tug Boat shares were placed at Tls. 232½. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai-Langkai Tobacco shares were sold at Tls. 125, Tls. 130 and Tls. 140 cash; Hall and Holtz shares were placed at \$36, and shares in A. S. Watson & Co. at \$18. Loans.—Taku Tug and Lighter 6 per cent. Debentures were placed at par, and Shanghai-Sumatra 7 per cent. Debentures also at par, plus the accrued interest in both cases. 6 per cent. Debentures are wanted.

Quotations are:—

BANKS.

Hongkong and Shanghai.—\$573.75.
Bank of China and Japan, Ltd.—£10.0.
Do. ordinary.—£5.5.0.
National Bank of China, Ltd.—\$25.00.

COTTON MILLS.

Ewo Cotton Spinning & W. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 62.50.
Hongkong Cotton S. W. & D. Co.—\$75.00.
International Cotton Man. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 75.00.
Laou-kung-mow Cotton Co., Ltd.—Tls. 77.50.
Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd.—Tls. 350.00.

DOCKS, WHARVES, &c.

Boyd & Co., Ltd., Founders.—Nominal.
Boyd & Co., Limited.—Tls. 190.00.
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf Company.—\$99.8.
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.—\$768.75.
S. C. Farnham & Co.—Tls. 215.00.
Shanghai Engineering S. & D. Co.—Tls. 95.00.
Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Tls. 235.00.

INSURANCES.

Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—\$146.25.
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$89.00.
China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$62.00.
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$312.50.
North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—Tls. 200.00.
Straits Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$6.50.
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.—\$247½.
Yangtze Insurance Assocn., Ltd.—\$115.00.

LANDS.

Hongkong Land Invest. & A. Co., Ltd.—\$105.00.
Humphreys Estate & Finance Co., Ltd.—\$10.40.
Shanghai Land Invest. Co., (fully pd.)—Tls. 82.00.

MINING.

Punjom Mining Co., Ltd.—\$11.00.
Punjom Mining Co., Ltd., pref. shares.—\$2.00.
Raub Australian Gold Mining Co., Ltd.—\$60.50.
Sheridan Consolidated Co.—Tls. 4.00.

SHIPPING.

China-Mutual preference.—Tls. 72.00.
Do. ordinary, £5 paid.—Tls. 30.00.
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 170.00.
Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.—\$57.00.
Hongkong, Canton and Macao.—\$32.00.
Indo-China Steam N. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 52.50.
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 175.00.
Shanghai Tugboat Co., Ltd.—Tls. 232.50.
Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd.—T. Tls. 75.00.

SUGAR.

China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$180.00.
Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$55.00.
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.—Tls. 61.00.

MISCELLANEOUS.

American Cigarette Co.—Tls. 67.50.
Central Stores, Ltd.—\$11.00.
China Flour Mills Co.—Tls. 30.00.
Hall & Holtz, Ltd.—\$36.00.
Llewellyn & Co., J., Limited.—\$55.00.
Major Brothers, Limited.—Tls. 35.00.
Shanghai Feather Cleaning Co.—Nominal.
Shanghai Gas Co.—\$200.00.
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.—Tls. 80.00.
Shanghai Ice, Cold Storage, & Refrigeration Co., Ltd.—Tls. 86.00.
Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd.—Tls. 140.
Shanghai Rice Mills Co.—Tls. 25.00.
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Co.—Tls. 37.50.
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.—Tls. 232.00.
Watson Co., A. S., Limited.—\$18.00.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 1st September.

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer 1/11½
Bank Bills, on demand 1/11½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight 1/11½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight 1/11½
Credits, at 4 months' sight 1/11½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight 1/11½

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand 2/46
Credits, at 4 months' sight 2/40

ON GERMANY.—

On demand 1/39

ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand 47½
Credits, 60 days' sight 48½

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer 145½
Bank, on demand 148

ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer 145½
Bank, on demand 148

ON SHANGHAI.—

Bank, at sight 73
Private, 30 days' sight 73½

ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand 4 ¼ pm.

ON MANILA.—

On demand 2 ¼ pm.

ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand 1 ¾ pm.

SOVEREIGNS. Bank's Buying Rate.

GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael 52.75

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—Stentor (str.), Cheong (str.), Pyrrhus (str.), Formosa (str.), Canton (str.), Ben-venue (str.).

For BREMEN.—Preussen (str.).
For MARSEILLES.—Chingwo (str.), Wakam Maru (str.), Ernest Simons (str.).

For HAMBURG AND HAMBURG.—Nürnberg (str.), Alesia (str.), Suevia (str.), Savota (str.), Serbia (str.).

For SAN FRANCISCO.—City of Peking (str.), America Maru (str.), Carilla City (str.).

For VANCOUVER.—Empress of Japan (str.).
For VICTORIA, B.C., via SHANGHAI.—Olympia (str.).

For PORTLAND, O.—Columbia (str.).
For NEW YORK.—Pisa (str.), 24th (str.), Governor Robie, Josephus, St. James, Tarrant (str.), Challenger, Ping Buey (str.).

For AUSTRALIA.—Chingwo (str.), Australia (str.).
For GENOA, via BOMBAY.—Singapore (str.).
For BOMBAY v. SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.—Milke Maru (str.).

For SINGAPORE, PENANG, AND CALCUTTA.—Arratoon Apcar (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

ARRIVALS.

28, Kwongang, British str., from N'ohwang.
 28, P. C. Kiao, British str., from Bangkok.
 28, Talles, German str., from Manila.
 28, China, German str., from Canton.
 28, Hus, French str., from Haiphong.
 28, Danav, Austrian str., from Moji.
 28, Hailong, British str., from Tamsui.
 28, Kwangping, Chinese str., from Taku.
 28, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Canton.
 28, Hake Maru, Jap. str., from Kutchinotzu.
 28, Bygdo, Norwegian str., from Newchwang.
 28, Heistein, German str., from Saigon.
 28, Chiepta, British str., from Sydney.
 28, Indus, French str., from Marseilles.
 28, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., from K'notzu.
 28, Menelaus, British str., from Shanghai.
 28, Maung, British str., from Srndakan.
 28, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 28, Taisang, British str., from Shanghai.
 28, Woosung, British str., from Canton.
 28, Crown of Arragon, Brit. str., from F'chow.
 28, Hiroshima Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.
 28, Sishan, British str., from Saigon.
 28, Amara, British str., from Moji.
 28, Hailan, French str., from Manila.
 28, Tritoe, German str., from Saigon.
 28, Hitachi Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 28, Singapore, Italian str., from Genoa.
 28, Thales, British str., from Swatow.
 28, Australian, British str., from Kobe.
 28, Grana, American str., from Manila.
 28, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 28, Elbe, German str., from Newchwang.
 28, Kutsang, British str., from Samarang.
 28, Nanchang, British str., from Tientsin.
 28, Arratoon Apar, British str., from Calcutta.
 28, Glenfalloch, British str., from Singapore.
 28, Marco Polo, Italian str., from Shanghai.
 28, Vincaya, American str., from Manila.
 28, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
 28, Ghazee, British str., from Amoy.
 28, Maiduru Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.
 28, Rohilla, British str., from Yokohama.
 28, Josephus, Amr. ship, from New York.
 28, Bygdo, Norwegian str., from Canton.
 28, Quarta, German str., from Saigon.
 28, Tamba Maru, Japanese str., from London.
 28, Taisang, British str., from Canton.
 28, Nanyang, German str., from Swatow.
 28, Whampoa, British str., from Shanghai.
 28, Yuenang, British str., from Manila.
 28, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Canton.
 28, Kwongang, British str., from Canton.
 September—
 1, Savia, German str., from Hamburg.
 1, Flintshire, British str., from London.
 1, Lyceum, German str., from Shanghai.
 1, Chusan, British str., from Shanghai.
 1, Chihli, British str., from Newchwang.
 1, Haimun, British str., from Tamsui.
 1, Hating, French str., from Pa'hoi.
 1, Choyang, British str., from Shanghai.
 1, Chowai, British str., from Bangkok.
 1, Equatoria, Belgian str., from Swatow.
 August—
 28, Oceanien, French str., for Europe.
 28, Zweena, British str., for Singapore.
 28, Progress, German str., for Tourn.
 28, Thordis, Norw. str., for Shanghai.
 28, Deuteros, German str., for Saigon.
 28, Triumph, German str., for Hoihow.
 28, Sarpedon, British str., for Shanghai.
 28, Hanoi, French str., for Hoihow.
 28, Futami Maru, Jap. str., for Nagasaki.
 28, Chowai, British str., for Bangkok.
 28, Loock, British str., for Bangkok.
 28, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.
 28, Tamsui Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 28, Indus, French str., for Shanghai.
 28, Kwangping, Chinese str., for Canton.
 28, Kwanglee, British str., for Canton.
 28, Bygdo, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 28, Ghader, U.S. supply ship, for Manila.
 28, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Canton.
 28, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 28, America Maru, Jap. str., for S. Francisco.
 28, Pigmy, British gunboat, for Shanghai.
 28, Hae, French str., for Haiphong.
 28, Hoihao, French str., for Hoihow.
 28, Derawongse, British str., for Bangkok.
 28, Talles, German str., for Manila.
 28, Pictola, German str., for Saigon.

29, Menelaus, British str., for London.
 29, Woosung, British str., for Shanghai.
 29, Terrier, Norw. str., for Bangkok.
 29, Hailong, British str., for Swatow.
 29, Ariake Maru, Jap. str., for Kutchinotzu.
 29, Nanchang, British str., for Canton.
 30, Empress of India, British str., for V'couer.
 30, China, German str., for Foochow.
 30, Sishan, British str., for Amoy.
 30, Onsang, British str., for Hongay.
 30, Chingtu, British str., for Foochow.
 30, Kachidate Maru, Japanese str., for K'notzu.
 30, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Canton.
 31, Nurnberg, German str., for Yokohama.
 31, Hailan, French str., for Manila.
 31, Ghazee, British str., for New York.
 31, Hitachi Maru, Japanese str., for London.
 31, Chinkiang, British str., for Shanghai.
 31, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 31, Haknai Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 31, Whampoa, British str., for Canton.
 31, Phra Chom Klao, British str., for Bangkok.
 31, Glenfalloch, British str., for Amoy.
 31, Bygdo, Norwegian str., for Chefoo.

September—

1, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
 1, Holstein, German str., for Saigon.
 1, Belleophon, British str., for Amoy.
 1, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Shanghai.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Tgisang*, from Shanghai, &c., Mrs. Schurch and 2 children.

Per *Chingtu*, from Sydney, Mrs. O'Brien, and Miss Glassford; from Manila, Lieut. Comdr. Walling, U.S.N., Lieut. Richardson, Messrs. Tan Ling Loong and G. F. Williams, Capt. Halladan, U.S.N., Mr. C. J. Decker, Mrs. Grand, Messrs. J. Smith, D. B. Hallman, B. L. Ayers, Taylor, J. H. Stahl, A. Arnhold, D. Prelowskey, K. Hyama, Mrs. Plumb, Messrs. W. McCulloch, J. D. Muffy, B. Brooks, Godfrey, and T. Tanimura.

Per *Indus*, for Hongkong, from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Wade, from Colombo, Mr. Tramiwo; from Singapore, Messrs. Feo Hung Sui, A. C. Harper, L. J. Rillia, Mr. and Mrs. Shirmann, and Mrs. Ofootay; from Saigon, Mr. Lanless; for Shanghai, from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Piot, Mr. and Mrs. Berthe and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Legrand, Messrs. Lambert, Roland, Mr. and Mrs. Thibant and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Saunier, Mr. and Mrs. Didier, Mr. and Mrs. Lippmann and infant, Messrs. L. C. May, Foutet, Bureau, Revs. Le Guéret, Chometon, Gérard, Bourlés, Cacault, Pérot, Dury, Montel, Fortunat, Bacqué, Solignac, Vignat, Mauberg, and Leconplet, Frs. Séraphin, Alexis, Hyppolyte, Vause, and Floribert, Messrs. Boure, Moynet, Devineux, Mr. and Mrs. Cuiller and child, Mr. Roussel, Mr. and Mrs. Chabrier, Mr. and Mrs. Hespel and infant, Messrs. Le Mouleec, Mahé, and Cugna Auxnod; from Colombo, Mr. Ruppert; from Singapore, Mr. G. S. Fety; from Saigon, Mr. A. W. Deppe; for Nagasaki, from Marseilles, Mr. G. Baton; from Singapore, Mrs. Ohyasu, Mrs. Ohruyi, Mrs. Yasedo, Mrs. Okato and infant; for Kobe, from Marseilles, Mr. Antonio Lopez; from Singapore, Mr. Shibuya; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Mr. B. de Dios, Mrs. Mahien and infant, Messrs. R. G. Jamin and R. du Pan; from Colombo, Mr. J. Armstrong; from Singapore, Messrs. Ohyama, H. Abrams; from Saigon, Messrs. d'Elloy and Veaux.

Per *Hitachi Maru*, from Moji, for Marseilles, Messrs. F. De Silvers and K. Mituno; for London, Mr. W. L. Wilson, Mrs. and Miss Harvey.

Per *Australian*, from Kobe, Mr. Casson.

Per *Thales*, from Swatow, Mr. and Mrs. MacHaffie, Rev. and Mrs. Graves, and Mrs. Smith.

Per *Chiyuen*, from Shanghai, Mr. Mason, Dr. Houston, U.S.S. *Monocacy*.

Per *Arratoon Apar*, from Calcutta, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Lew Yuk Lein, Consul-General of China and 3 children, Mr. K. J. Kuan, Miss Hap Sing, and Mr. Wing Sang Chan, and 574 Chinese.

Per *Glenfalloch*, from Singapore, Mr. W. Dunlop.

Per *Rohilla*, from Yokohama, for Marseilles, Mr. A. Heper; for Singapore, Mr. C. B. Oldfield; for Hongkong, Mrs. Plummer, Capt. Har-

rington, and Lieut. Col. The O'Gorman; from Kobe, for London, Mr. John Shand; for Hongkong, Mrs. Yow Chee and 3 children, and Mr. J. Mackertoom; from Nagasaki, from Hongkong, Mr. John Blake, Dr. Obremski, and Mrs. O. Kiwa.

Per *Quarta*, from Saigon, Mr. Georg Haupt and 168 Chinese.

Per *Tamba Maru*, from London, for Hongkong, Messrs. A. Smythe, A. Grant, E. Thomson, Capt. S. Plant, Mr. A. Latta, Mr. and Mrs. Wong Tong Sam, and Mr. Sim Ah Kin; for Yokohama, Messrs. Kerr, Charles Huas, Dr. K. Ito, Mr. I. Ellard; for Kobe, Messrs. K. Kawashima, H. Ohara, and Dr. S. Yamamoto.

Per *Choyang*, from Shanghai, &c., Master Vallentine.

Per *Chowtai*, from Bangkok, Mrs. Kennedy and child.

Per *Lyceum*, from Shanghai, Mr. H. Neumann; for Canton, Provincial Treasurer and suite.

Per *Haimun*, from Tamsui, &c., Messrs. Oleyatno, N. Matsuki, Kawamunez, M. Remedios, M. J. Stroom and 2 children, Tsu Cheng Chuen, and Kow.

Per *Chusan*, from Shanghai, for London, Mr. S. Vaughan; for Bombay, Messrs. Rai Snib Gopal Singh, Bhaga Ram, and J. File; for Colombo, Mr. A. Willis; for Penang, Mr. R. Weil; for Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Pettican and child; for Hongkong, Mr. D. Moses, Surgeon Tack, Mr. F. Jacob, and Mrs. J. Smedley.

DEPARTED.

Per *Kasuga Maru*, for Thursday Island, &c., Messrs. E. H. S. von Arnheim, Le Conteur, J. J. Francis, Q.C., Mrs. M. Mitchell, Messrs. T. Sugimura, W. E. Bailey, C. E. Bailey, Y. Fat-sue, William Quin, Yonug, and Mrs. J. Burden.

Per *Oceanien*, for Saigon, Mr. J. Burke and Miss Burke; for Singapore, Messrs. J. H. Irvin, H. W. Bray, Gourlay, Walter Douglas, and T. Hart Davies; for Colomb, Mr. C. Bradbury; for Pondicherry, Rev. Monnier; for Marseilles, Dr. C. d'Almeida Pessanha, Dr. C. L. Norgren, and Mr. L. Dupuy.

Per *Indus*, for Shanghai, from Hongkong, Miss Meoura, Mrs. Suru, Surgeon G. J. Decker, U.S.N., Messrs. W. Allanson, Cecil Holiday, M. Dandolo, C. Serezay, A. Rosen, W. Taylor, W. Biscup, and F. Hazell; for Nagasaki, Mrs. Nastacia; for Yokohama, Capt. J. Hallahan, U.S.N.

Per *Futami Maru*, for Japan, Messrs. Walker Siegfried, Mr. and Mrs. Steel, Mr. Macleod, Miss Macleod, Messrs. Manville, Cohen, Miyahara, Halford, Gleaner, Mr. and Mrs. Takano, Messrs. Kitashima and Rodriguez.

Per *America Maru*, for Shanghai, Mr. E. T. Slight; for Nagasaki, Messrs. E. P. Rantall, Barney Brooks, J. D. Muffy, B. L. Ayers, and D. B. Holman; for Yokohama, Mr. Arthur W. Taylor; for San Francisco, Messrs. Chee-Kew Chong and Geo. Hubbard.

Per *Empress of India*, for Amoy, Rev. L. H. Roots; for Shanghai, Messrs. Wm. Whitey and John T. McCutcheon; for Nagasaki, Mr. Gordon L. Burke; for Kobe, Mrs. and Miss Sayer, Messrs. M. Kuntschera and E. J. Es-a; for Yokohama, Rev. R. F. Cobbold, Major S. S. Long, Capt. G. E. Rickman, Capt. and Mrs. Trevelyan, Lieut. H. Rotterdam, Dr. P. R. O'Brien, Mrs. D. MacHaffie and child, Miss Glassford, Messrs. P. R. Desai, A. H. Skelton, J. M. Watson, and T. H. Glover; for Vancouver, Messrs. J. H. Cunningham, and Earl Fisher; for Victoria, Misses Mun Oi and Mun Heung, and Mr. Lee Moi; for St. Louis, Mr. W. S. Barger; for Seattle, Mr. F. P. Hemen; for Portland, Mrs. Dalton; for San Francisco, Messrs. Arthur Arnhold and D. Petrovsky; for Washington, Mr. T. E. De Witt Vieder; for Indianapolis, Mr. John Schenebecker; for Minneapolis, Mr. John Smith; for London, Mr. St. John and child, Messrs. H. Skott, H. B. Byles, E. H. Gimpin, and A. C. Harper; for Paris, Mr. Henry Lawless; from Shanghai, for London, Mr. J. Meikle; from Yokohama, for Philadelphia, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Peterson, and Mr. C. R. Sheaff; for London, Mr. Geo. Enticknap; for Paris, Mons. and Mme. Verne.

Per *Hakui Maru*, for Swatow, &c., Mr. E. Thomson, Capt. S. Plant, Messrs. A. Latta, Plennet, Kato, and Hiyama.

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